

FBIHQ FILE
100-12304

SECTION : 1

12-4-61
PAUL ROBESON, SR.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Seattle, Washington

February 17, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: PAUL ROBESON;
INTERNAL SECURITY - R.

There are enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau and with copy of this letter to the New York Division, copies of a letter dated at Seattle, Washington, January 16, 1941 received by the Seattle Office from the District Director, United States Immigration and Naturalization Service at Seattle, with reference to PAUL ROBESON, prominent American Negro vocalist, and alleged member of the Communist Party.

Very truly yours,

A. Cornelius, Jr.
A. CORNELIUS, JR.,
Special Agent in Charge

EEB:MC

cc New York City
Enc.

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&
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100-304-1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Immigration and Naturalization Service, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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Bufile 100-12304-1 (Enclosure, dated January 16, 1941)

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3

San Antonio, Texas
March 16, 1942

COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES
PAUL ROBESON
AMERICAN COMMITTEE TO SAVE REFUGEES
UNITED AMERICAN SPANISH AID COMMITTEE.

Various reports have been submitted in the past concerning the connections with the Communist Party of PAUL ROBESON the colored singer and the 100% Communist front nature of the AMERICAN COMMITTEE TO SAVE REFUGEES and the UNITED AMERICAN SPANISH AID COMMITTEE.

A clipping from the N.Y. Times of March 14th is attached which ties up all three by stating that the two organizations named above will give a dinner for PAUL ROBESON at the Biltmore Hotel in New York on March 30rd. The ostensible purpose of the dinner is to raise funds which "will help pay for the transportation of anti-Axis refugees in French concentration camps." In reality- and as shown by past performance - it means for the transportation of Communists to Mexico and other Latin-American countries.

Apparently QUENTIN REYNOLDS has been roped in innocently for this affair because [REDACTED]

I am certain that [REDACTED] has no sympathies for the Communists. CASKINE

WALDWELL and MARGARET WEBSTER are of course close to the Communist Party. It is noteworthy that DOROTHY PARKER is going to be chairman of this Communist-inspired affair. This seems to confirm recent rumors in New York that she has returned to the fold after a temporary estrangement

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100-12304-2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 30 1942

- 2 -

[REDACTED]

b7c/b7I

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

LN:MSB

March 24, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KRAMER

RE: PAUL ROBESON; *pkw*
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Gandy _____

W
In the Sunday Worker for March 22, 1942, in column 1, page 2, section 2, appears the following comment on the Browder case by Paul Robeson, "distinguished Negro singer:

".....There can be no more honest evidence of a sincere desire to defeat fascism, along with the sending of tanks and every possible aid to the Soviet Union than the freeing of Earl Browder, so that he may take his rightful place in the vanguard of the cohorts against fascism....."

Respectfully,

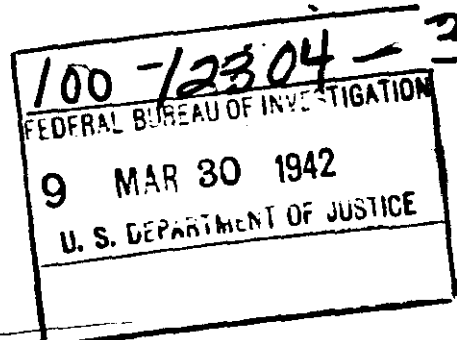
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Lish Whitson

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Department of the Army, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Los Angeles, California
April 3, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE U.S.A.
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

Dear Sir:

There is being forwarded with this communication a brown notebook apparently belonging to PAUL ROBESON, Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut, which was turned over to this office by [REDACTED] Pullman Company, Los Angeles, February 20, 1942.

It is believed that the book contains Chinese characters and it may be possible that ROBESON is learning this language; however, the book is being transmitted in order that it may be examined in the Bureau's coding section to determine if the letter may have any other significance. This may be returned to the Los Angeles Office after it has served its purpose unless it is of extreme value to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

R. B. Hood
R. B. HOOD
Special Agent in Charge

RBH:hik
Enclosure

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ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

CONFIDENTIAL

100-12304-5
5 APR 9 1942
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CCM:rb
100-12304-5

May 27, 1942

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge
Los Angeles, California

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.
District No. 13
Los Angeles Field Division
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated April 3, 1942 in the above entitled matter with which you transmitted a notebook apparently belonging to Paul Robeson, which book contained numerous Chinese characters. Your letter stated that the same was being transmitted for translation of any significant information, further, that the same should be returned to you after it had served its purpose at the Bureau.

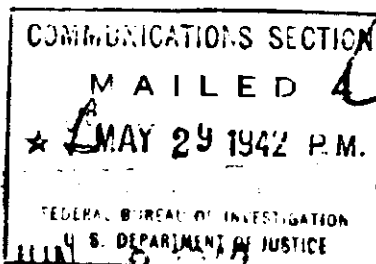
For your information, the Translation Section has informed that the material contained in this notebook is clearly of no significance to anyone other than its owner. In accordance with your request, there is being transmitted herewith the above referred to notebook.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____ Enclosure
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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RECEIVED
MAY 28 1942
MAY 25 11 05 AM
I B I
JUN 3 1942
JUN 8 1942
JUN 9 1942

SUMMARY OF CHINESE WRITING IN BROWN NOTEBOOK

The writing in this notebook is evidently the notes of an occidental, probably a university student, who is trying to learn to read the Chinese language. The writing consists for the most part of a vocabulary list of 858 words, for each of which are given the Chinese pronunciation, the English meaning, and an improvised description of how the character is written in Chinese. The book is clearly of significance to no one other than its owner.

COPIES DESTROYED ~~67-58~~
8-18

Summarized by:
Herold L. Child
4-24-42 w
100-12304-5

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100-12304-5

New York, New York

WES:LRG
100-25357

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

September 19, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: PAUL ROBINSON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of the report of Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted]

These reports dated August 25, 1942, pertain to a party and banquet given in honor of PAUL ROBINSON at Camp Lo-Chi-Ca.

The following literature was obtained by Informant [redacted] at this party and banquet at Camp Lo-Chi-Ca:

One pamphlet entitled "Lo-Chi-Ca"
Two pamphlets entitled "Lo-Chi-Ca Comics"

Copies of the above mentioned literature are being retained in the New York investigative file pertaining to this matter, and in addition a leaflet dated August 25, 1942, entitled:

"Dear Friends,

This has been a swell day for me. Thanks for the welcome, the songs, the entertainment and the gifts. Above all, thanks for the spirit, understanding and affection. The future rests well in your hands for you are expressing true democracy. I'm certainly proud to be your

RECORDED

INDEXED

PAUL

100-12304-6

On this mimeographed sheet also appears the typewritten word "fraternally" followed directly by a mimeographed signature of PAUL ROBINSON. Informant advised in respect to this last mentioned mimeographed letter that PAUL ROBINSON personally presented these mimeographed sheets to the people in attendance. This mimeographed sheet is also being retained in the New York investigative file pertaining to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Enclosures - 5
cc - N.Y. file 64730

F. F. FOXBORNE
Assistant Director

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DATE OF REVIEW 11/24/90

PUBLICATION FILE

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Tuesday, August 25,

Attended a party and banquet given in honor of Paul Robeson at Camp Wo-Chi-Ca. There were banners on all of the buildings and tents which read "Welcome Paul Robeson" and "Paul Robeson Freedom's Fighter". When Paul Robeson arrived at the camp, the Campers gathered around him and sang a song of welcome specially written for this occasion.

He then was escorted to the Administration Building where there were more cheers for him and presented with a scroll from the children of the camp. During the presentation of the scroll by a young girl, he became so emotional that tears rolled down his cheeks. When the elder folks saw this, many of the women were affected likewise.

There was a football game played by the campers in which Paul Robeson took part. At the banquet which followed he presented some of the child with medals for their achievements while at camp.

After the banquet, there was a show put on by the children in which they sang songs that were written by Paul Robeson. To show his appreciation, Paul Robeson then sang several songs requested by the campers.

Among the guests present were Mr. and Mrs. Dave/Greene, N.Y. Stat secretary of the International Workers Order, Max/Bedaschet, national executive secretary of the I.W.O., Mrs. Ann/Willard, director of the school for Democracy, Sol/Vail, Youth Director of the I.W.O., Helen Vrabel, -national secretary of the Youth Division of the I.W.O. Dr. and Mrs./Kaufman, Mr. and Mrs. Robert/Engel, Harold/Wilson of the Harlem branch of the Y.M.C.A., Mr. and Mrs. Matt/Hall and Charlette/Honig. ←

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DATE OF REVIEW 11/26/90

12



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ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATION



PAUL ROBESON

WOLFE LAKE CEMETERY

INTERMENT

WOLFE LAKE CEMETERY
WOLFE LAKE, ONT.
WOLFE LAKE CEMETERY
WOLFE LAKE, ONT.
WOLFE LAKE CEMETERY
WOLFE LAKE, ONT.

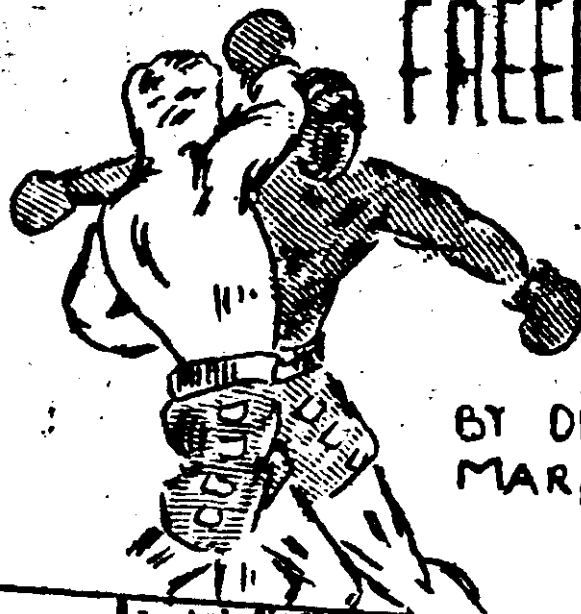


WOLFE LAKE CEMETERY
WOLFE LAKE, ONT.
WOLFE LAKE CEMETERY
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WOLFE LAKE, ONT.



WOLFE LAKE CEMETERY

JOE LOUIS: FREEDOM FIGHTER

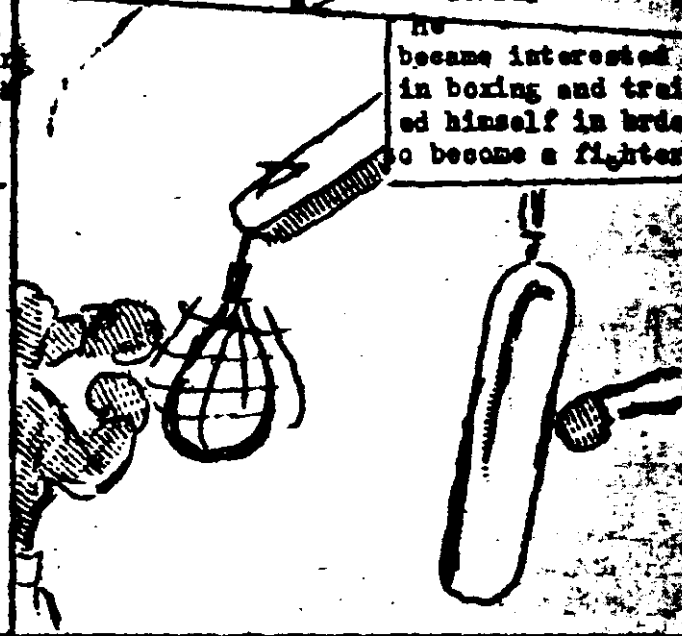


BY DICK
MARKOFF

Joseph Louis Barron, known throughout the world as the world's heavy weight champion, is more than a boxer — he is one of America's leading freedom fighters, in the vanguard of the battle for a better world.

Louis' first bout was between him and a sparring partner. Joe took a terrific beating.

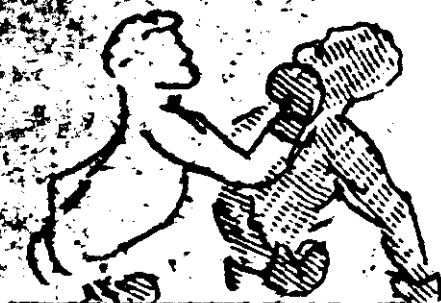
He became interested in boxing and trained himself in order to become a fighter.



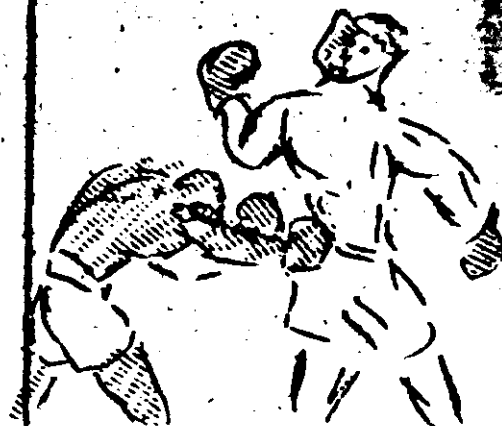
His 1st real bout was in the Golden Gloves tournament.



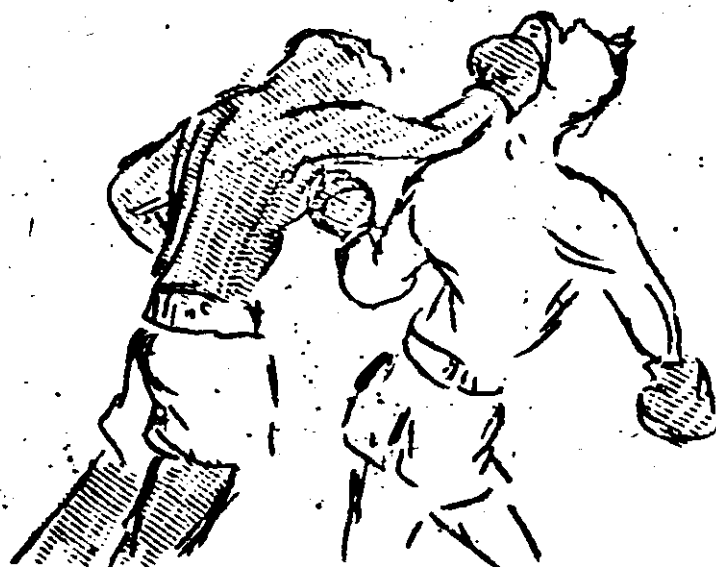
In Joe's first professional fight, he took a beating for the first five rounds.



In the sixth round Joe rushed his opponent, swinging with both hands and landed a livering body blow.

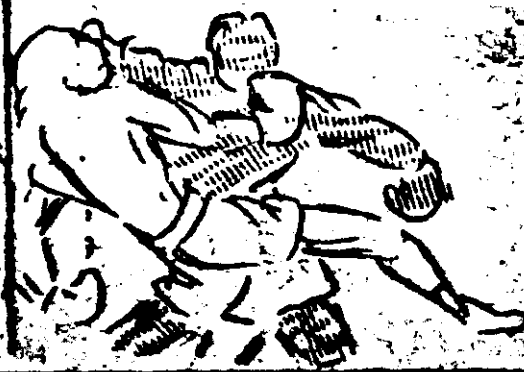
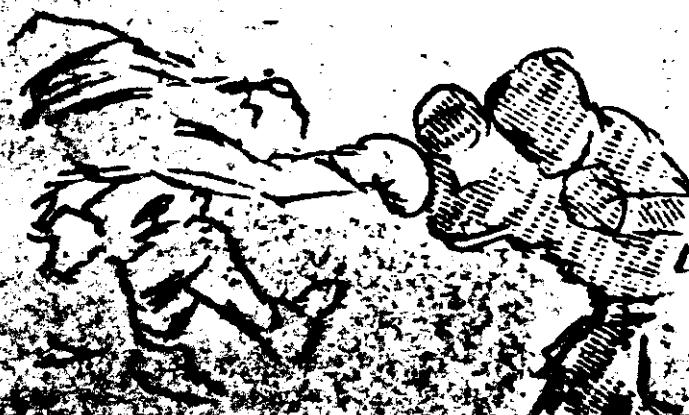


His opponent was caught off guard and was given a knockout.



He fought in many professional bouts, winning all his fights.

He fought against Jimmy Braddock in the championship fight -- winning easily.



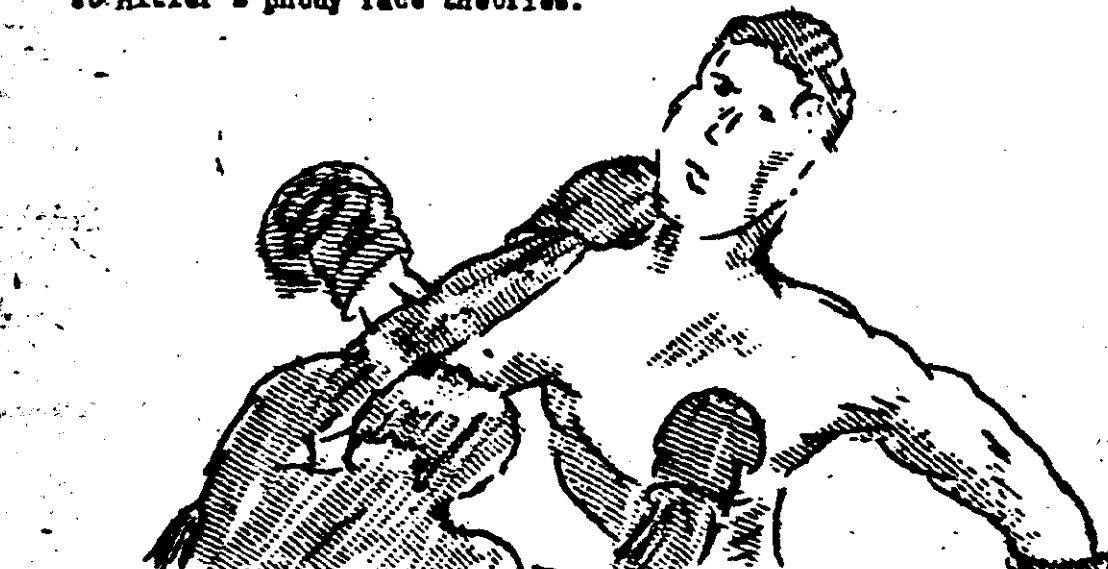
Schnelzing studied pictures of Joe's boxing, before their fight.

While Schnelzing learned Joe's weaknesses from the pictures, Louis trained in the usual way.

When the fight began, Schnelzing prepared for every trick of boxing Joe might use.



When he won this bout, Schnelzing slandered not only Louis, but the whole Negro people. Joe trained again--and in the return bout, he knocked the Nazi boxer out in less than a minute. With his fists, he gave a knockout blow to Hitler's phony race theories.



In his next fight--with Godoy--the champion didn't win with a knockout, because the South American's clever style of defensive crouching baffled Louis, who was expert in fast, open boxing. The fight to a decision in favor of Joe.

Joe quickly adapted his style. In their next fight, he easily beat Godoy, proving to his public that their champion combined smashing fists with a quick mind.



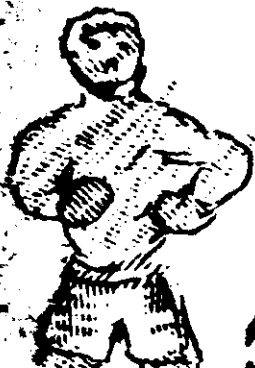
Ray Salento's famous round-house
proved futile against Joe's thundering
punch.



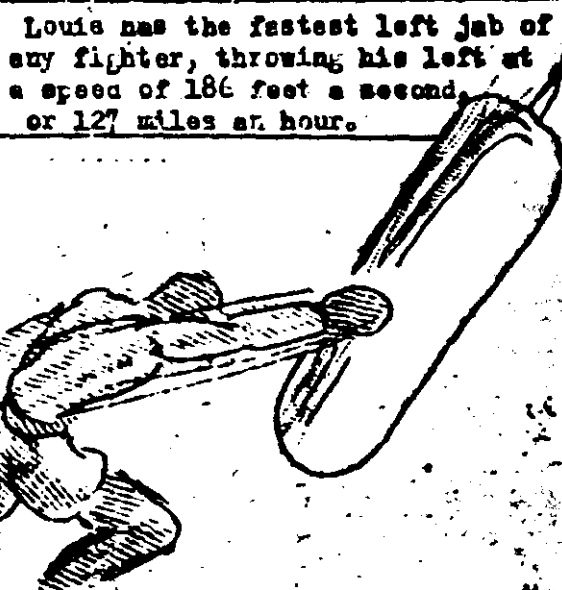
Louis was knocked down in the "blaze"
fight, but with the spirit of a true
champion got off the floor to deliver
the knockout punch to the bear-barrel.



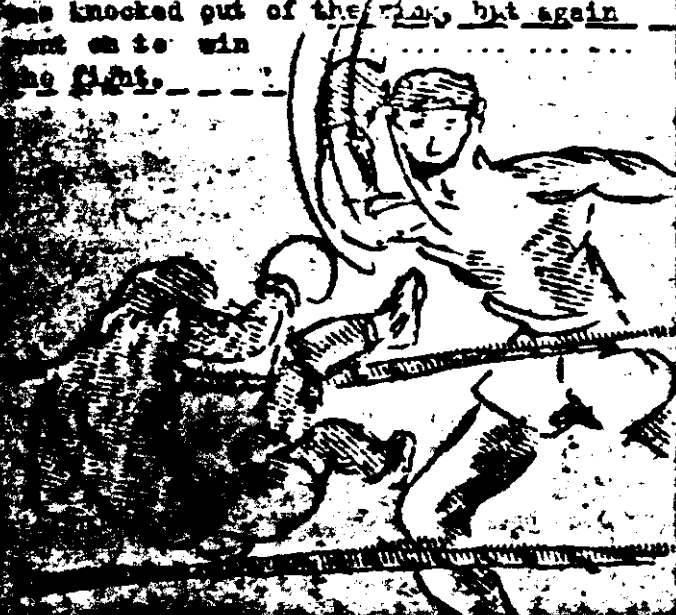
No fighter ever showed more sportsmanship
than Joe Louis. In the Conn fight, with
Billy the Kid on the floor tripping, Louis
could have delivered the knockout, but
he let Conn get to his feet again.



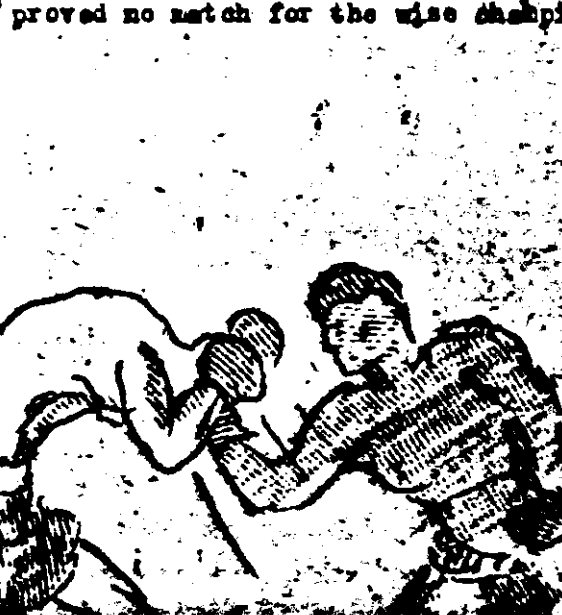
Louis has the fastest left jab of
any fighter, throwing his left at
a speed of 186 feet a second,
or 127 miles an hour.



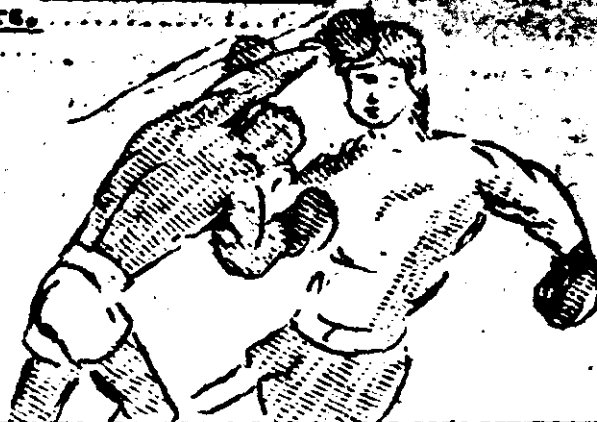
In his first fight with Buddy Baer, Louis
was knocked out of the ring, but again
went on to win
the fight.



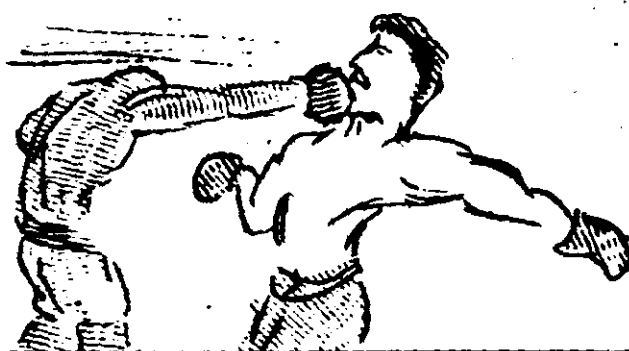
In their second meeting, Buddy Baer
proved no match for the wise champion.



Les Kova's "sonnie" punch held no fears
for Louis, who disposed of this challenger
as easily as the others.



Abe Simon, a hulking fighter, also went the way of all
flesh that opposed Joe Louis in the ring.



"THERE ARE LOTS OF
THINGS WRONG WITH
THIS COUNTRY— BUT
HITLER WON'T FIX
THEM"—

CORP. JOE LOUIS

DAVE DORAN

Don't wait for
war maps.

by DICK
MARKOFF

Well, that's it!
I got to Spain.
Let's hear your
story Dave.



I was living in New York when the war broke out here in Spain. They called it a civil war, but I saw in it a war for all humanity to fight — because Spain today is freedom's testing ground. If Hitler wins in Spain he won't stop till the world is his. On our shoulders, in our rights, in our determination lies the fate of a world.

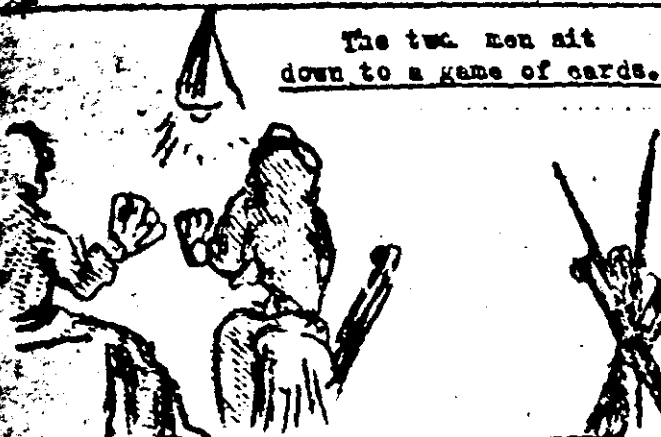
When I got to Spain after the trip across the Atlantic, I enlisted in the Spanish Republican army, and was made a political commissar of the Abraham Lincoln Battalion.

Well, Dave, let's get going, it's time for guard duty.

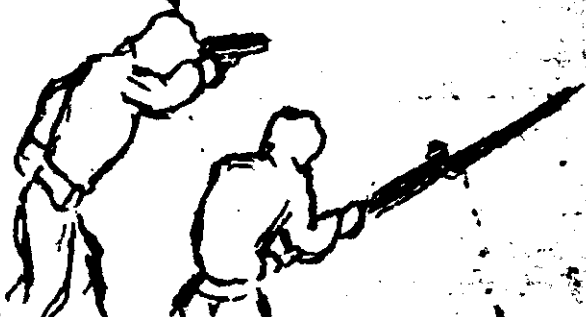
O.K.



The two men sit
down to a game of cards.



What's that rumpus
outside?



The guards capture a prisoner who
they bring back to the post.



Dave Doran enters, and taking the prisoner
over aside, talks to him in Spanish.



Dave Jordan lets the prisoners
 go.

I think I should have
 been able to get back the
 entire regiment.

Hey! He's
 letting my
 prisoner go
 free.

I hope it works,
 Dave.

I'm sure it will.

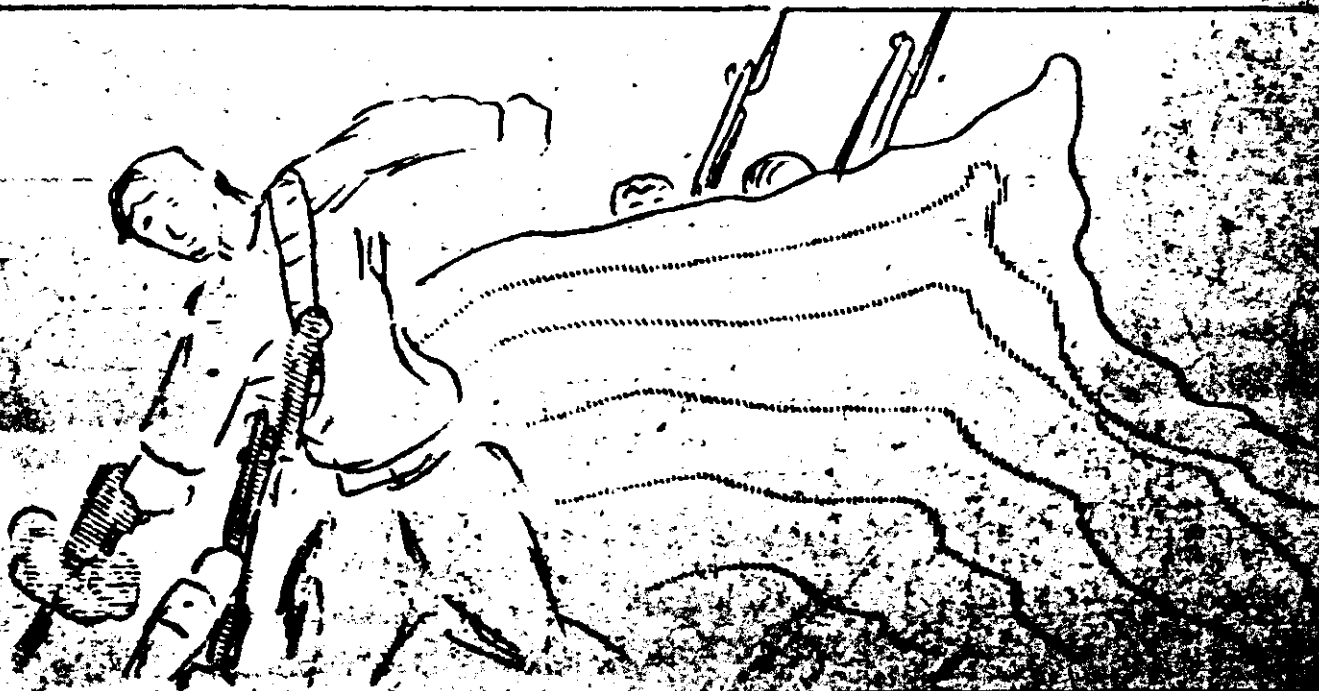
HOURS LATER

Look, they're
 attacking by the
 hundreds.

No, they're surrend-
 ering -- Dave's trick
 worked.

Dave Jordan continued in the fight for the freedom of Spain and the world. One day
 a bullet ended his life. To Dave Jordan -- we say Farewell, Beloved Comrade --

THE FIGHT WILL STILL GO ON!



WO-CHICA REVIEW

Flash back over
fourth period

NO COMMENT
NEEDED!

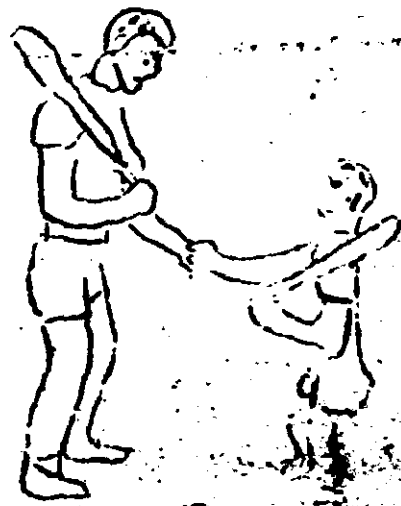


Confused over those
maneuver rules.

Staff 'molders'
campers twice.



Our new 'waitress'
in pants. -- RGY



11

the Story of DORIE MILLER

Dorie Miller, a
Negro miller,
could not rise
higher than
Master's Mate
of his ship.

Dorie is down below
in the galley.

I wish I
was fighting
like the other
men.

The
ship's
hit.

At once he
rushed to join
the fight.

We're
attacked!
Give God
to help.

As Dorie
reaches the
deck.

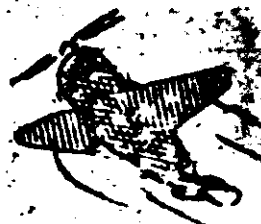
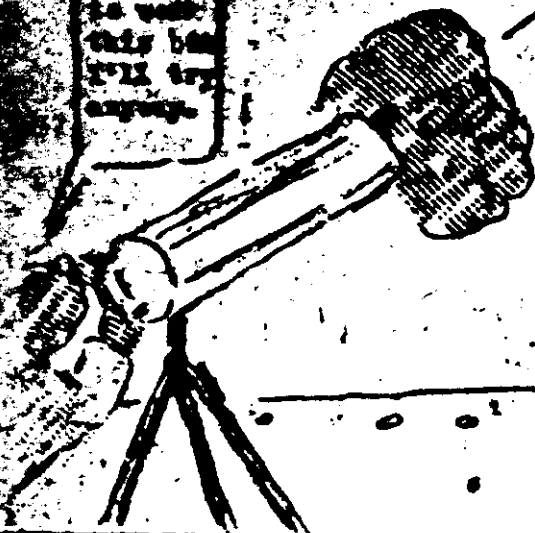
Get back to
the galley.
You're only
a messman.

Suddenly

You're
hit!

He carries the captain
to a safe place.

I don't
know how
to use
this gun
I'll try
anyway.



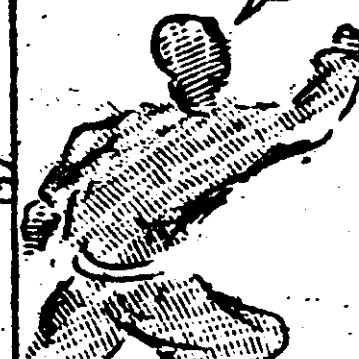
He continues to fire
begging many Japanese
planes.

I knew
these
shot sailors
would help.

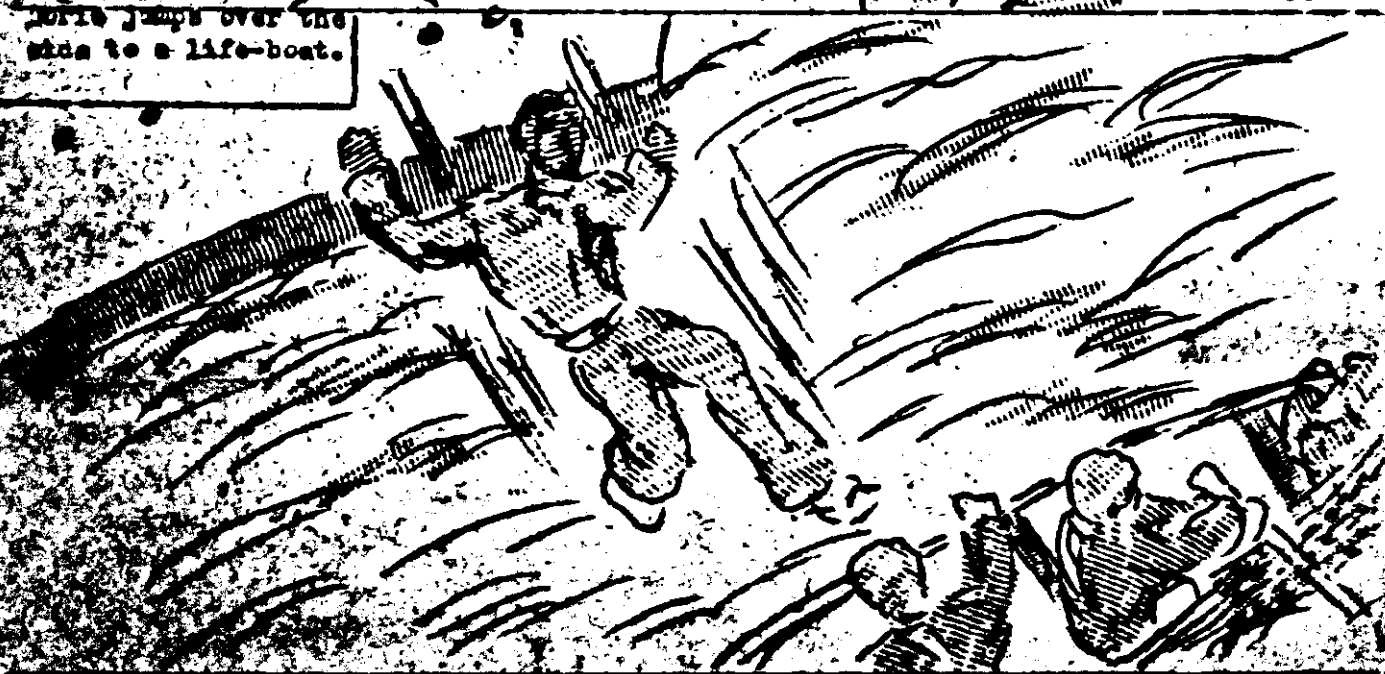


The ammunition
runs out.

Oh, oh,
my ammuni-
tion's gone.



He jumps over the
side to a life-boat.



He leaves the ship to go back to the sinking ship and rescue the captain.

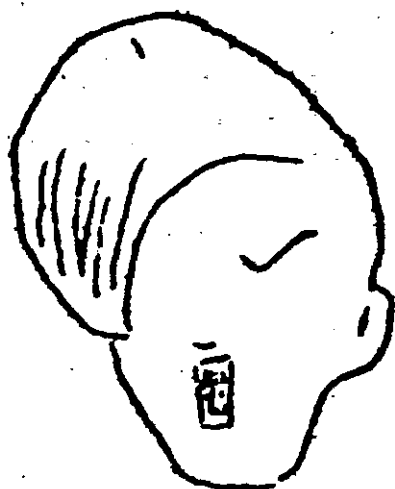


And I give you the congressional medal of honor in recognition of heroic service.

I think that the way to win this war is to have everybody pitching in — black and white, Let's and Jim Crow wherever it is and we'll wipe the axis off the face of the earth.



WHO READS THE JOURNAL-AMERICAN



Arnold — This wonderful newspaper resembles the
Deutscher Beobachter so much, that I find it hard
to choose between them at my ersatz breakfast.



Arnold — This wonderful newspaper resembles the
Deutscher Beobachter so much, that I find it hard
to choose between them at my ersatz breakfast.

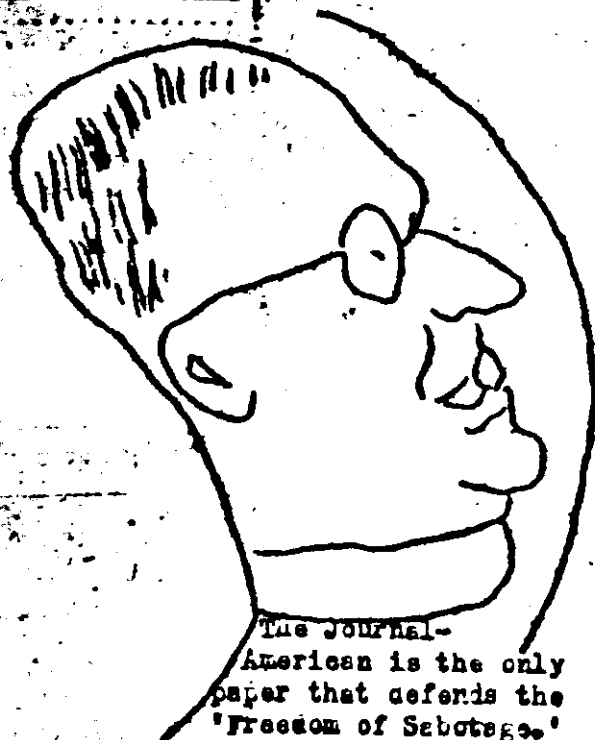


Frankie Hughes — It's the only newspaper that
gives a clear picture of events in Jersey
City the way I see them.

45

MORE READERS

Wally Southerlin



The Journal-American is the only paper that defends the 'Freedom of Sabotage.'



Ever since reading the Journal-American I have been able to do away with at least 25% of my spy service.

WEE WILLY HEARST-

My readers have said all there is to say -- but I want to say that my 50 personal copies a day practically doubles the circulation.



MEYER LEVIN

COLIN KELLY'S BUDDY —

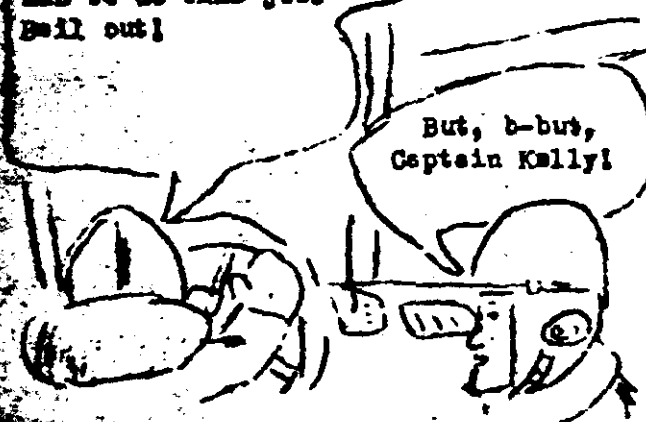
by Leslie Robinson



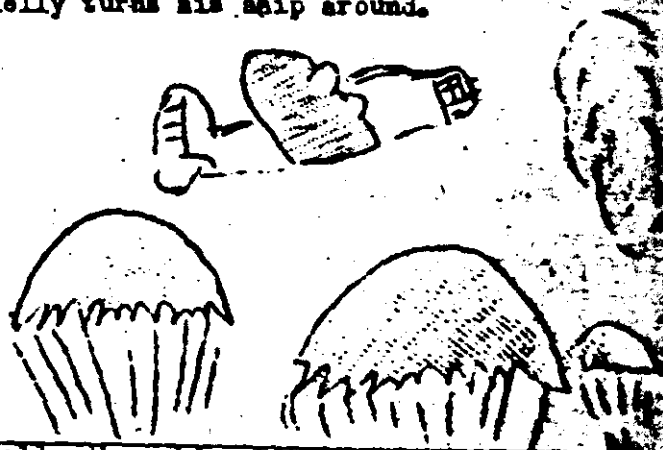
Meyer Levin was the last one to bail out when Colin Kelly made his last great trip. He is, in his own right — a great freedom fighter.

Meyer, it takes only one man to do this job. Bail out!

But, b-but, Captain Kelly!



Ordering his men to bail out — Colin Kelly turns his ship around.



Kelly dives his ship at the Harum.



And after I bailed out,
I saw Captain Levin's plane
at the battleship. He
never came out of that dive.

Colin Kelly's widow receives the
congressional medal for her husband's
heroism.

In the spirit of
Colin Kelly, Meyer
Levin continues
his bombing raids.

One day, Levin sights a Japanese
battleship, and prepares to attack.

...the after ... tests had
...diving ... Goli ... Kelly dumps his bombs on ... ship ...
battleship, but is unable to pull out of the ... and to ...
dive, and is caught in the blast.







VOL. I- NO. 3

AUGUST 25, 1942

CAMP WO-CHI-CA

NEWSPAPER - GUIDANCE PUBLICATION

— THE — WO-KI-MAG

EDITORIAL: THE SECOND FRONT. SERIES OF LETTERS.

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Lenny Strauss.-----page 2

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brave comrades..." Leon Lifschitz
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BY WINTER CAMP-----Terry Chensis-----page 8

DEDICATED TO FREEDOM-FIGHTERS

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: MARGUERITE MAIR

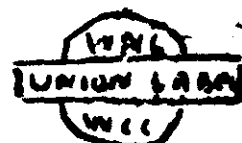
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AUGUST 1942



PUBLICATION FILE

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WO-CHI-CA'S FREEDOM SONG

Clasped hands, black and white,
Joined together for a common fight.
With voices raised loud and strong,
Singing a new and living song.

We sing of how free children live,
With the end of hate, the birth of give;
With the right to teach the truth to all,
To build together for Hitler's fall.

Neither hate nor oppression, to mar the
plan,
Our life is a progressive and worthy span;
This is the goal we're striving for--
A better world---forevermore!

K.M.S.

Mae Smibert, of our kitchen staff, wrote this poem, expressing why Wo-Chi-Ca's Freedom Fighters strive for Victory. Mae is the daughter of Al Smibert, who fought for freedom while he was alive by working to make this camp for worker's children a better place to live in.

Today we fight for a better world to live in.
Our fight will end much sooner in the Victory of the People's Rights
if we OPEN UP THAT SECOND FRONT!

Four of our campers--Lenny Strauss, Whitey Waldman, Terry Chansis and Peggy Hair--have written a series of imaginary letters which appear on the following pages. In these letters, they have imagined that they were three FREEDOM FIGHTERS--a Belt Line worker, a soldier, and a woman in the French Underground. They have written the letters that these people might write to our President; first--asking for the urgently needed SECOND FRONT; secondly--showing their reactions when the SECOND FRONT WILL BE OPENED. LET'S FIGHT TO MAKE THESE LETTERS COME TRUE!

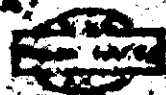
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EXTRA!

DATE: MAKE IT YOURS!

ADDRESS: NOT FOR MAIL

VICTORY BULLETIN



2nd FRONT IS OPEN!

The people of the world rejoice today at the news that our armies are now fighting for freedom on a **SECOND FRONT! THE SECOND FRONT IS OPEN AT LAST!** Your daily "Victory Bulletin" brings you the reactions of three Freedom Fighters to this wonderful news, as these reactions are expressed in letters to our President.

V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing you this letter from a shell hole in a German forest. I have been fighting all day and this is my first rest period. Despite the fact that I am dirty, tired, and hungry, I have an irresistible urge to continue fighting. That is because I believe in this, the peoples war. This second front was made possible because enough people wanted it, and said they wanted it.

Yesterday we marched through the German city of Dell, capturing it after a long hard battle. Tears came to my eyes, and to those of many other soldiers, as we watched the haggard population stand in the streets looking at us. They were sullen and forlorn, and their glassy eyes, set like broken beads in their expressionless faces, seemed to look right through us. They were miserable people, for years ground down by fascism. **WE ARE GLAD TO BE AMERICAN SOLDIERS, FIGHTING TO FREE THE WORLD FOR ALL MEN.**

YOURS FOR

VICTORY,

SGT. MARTIN

WALDEN

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT

As soon as the **AKF** landed every man, woman and child took up arms against the Nazis. I can't say in words the joy the second front brought to our people. Do you know what it means to be saved---to find hope? We of the underground had worked night and day since France fell, sabotaging, fighting. And now we are full of new faith and courage. As the soldiers marched thru the streets once more or faces smiled; we cheered and yelled and several people, hungry, tired and disillusioned, ran to join the fighting ranks on the battlefront. The second front has brought us the help and inspiration to culminate the war in 1942.

Now we see clearly the path to victory. No, it is not a path of words alone. We need even more work---more guns, food, clothing. America, you have not failed us. We on the battlefront in Europe will not fail the world; between us and the Russian people Hitler will be crushed like an insect.

Yours for Victory,

ALDOUS HUXLEY (T. S.)

VICTORY BELL

Digitized by Google

Post 14, Prudent,

in an amateur dress in his second day in the army. I think I should write you this letter expressing my feelings. I gave up my printing job, left my relatives and friends, stuck my ear in the garage, kissed my girl goodby, and left for camp. But don't get me wrong; I'm glad to be in this man's army! It's really swell. ~~That gets me away from~~ Hitler and company. I'd love to get a crack at that gang. I'd like to fight on a new battlefield with our Russian allies. Mr. President, I'd like to fight on a second front.

Doubtless you have received many letters during the opening of a second front. Letters from all kinds and classes of people; letters written with the blood of dead soldiers and civilians; letters praying you, begging you to do what I and of you **GREENIE** THAT SECOND FRONT NOT, BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE; BEFORE MANY MORE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WILL HAVE TO DIE

INT: LITTLE (GARY) (na):

Dear Mr. President:

I lived in Paris; my husband was killed at the beginning of war on the English side. In March, I despaired and was hospitalized. Just after the Nazis invaded France, and I saw my fellowmen starving, dying, I lived in order that France might be freed. I fed a woman's child of the underground movement. Now I am the victim of my own survival. Now France, (the France of the Vichy), the newspaper of the woman's underground, the last organized strike and demonstration, the last for food, fuel and clothing, and the

In the mass hall, on the campus, the bare-----Ho-Gli-Gli's eddies repeated the demands heard in London's Trafalgar Square, with all the people, of the world, fight for Freedom, demand a Second World War. Today we print three letters addressed to our President by three Freedom Fighters.

[illegible]

Door No. 176 old City

I am a belt-line worker in a big
predominant plant. Today, I make more money
than ever before. The money is not the
point as the feeling that I produce
to fight Fascism. The opening of a
front would end the war sooner, and
wipe out my job. But I fight for a
front because in ending this war
it would bring victory to the
democracy, and bring freedom to
oppressed peoples.

As a Home-Front soldier, I am
urgently request the immediate opening
of the SECOND FRONT

1. CHINA FOR PROGRESS

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

strong have our united voices raised, we have been forced to stand before the world as a people who have no say in our children's future.

I wrote many poems, trying and exploring new themes, in the second decade, as well as the first. The world may be tired of me, but I think the poets have never been so tired.

1. 凡在本行開辦之各項業務，均應遵守本行所定之規章制度，並應隨時注意本行所定之業務範圍，不得逾越。

from our fellow prisoners
a message of friendship and hope
Have faith: Our fight is the same

Dear faraway friends:

We are five, two girls and three boys. We are writing to you from the village of Sokolniki, in Moscow Region. You probably have never heard of our little village. It was the only one in our district to escape destruction by fire when the Germans came. Our army drove the invaders out, but the Germans worked terrible havoc before they were driven back.

You American children do not know what the East army is like. We have seen them and we know. The Germans occupied our village after a fierce battle. As soon as their troops entered the village they drove us from our airraid shelters. They ordered us into a barn on the outskirts of the village. "Those who don't go are liable to be killed," we were told. We all went.

The barn was crowded with people. It was a small barn, and there were many of us. The grown-ups and the boys sat silent, but some of the little girls and the babies cried. It was very cold. We didn't know what was happening outside, but we heard shells bursting quite near.

Suddenly a shell exploded right next to our barn. One girl—the sister of Valya and Myra Gerasimova, who are writing this letter with us, was killed by shrapnel, and several people were wounded. Our school teacher bandaged the wounds, but soon the bullets and shrapnel began falling so heavily that she did not have time to dress everybody's wounds before new ones were wounded.

A whole day passed and we were not allowed to leave. We sat there without food or water. The little babies cried from thirst and hunger. Another day passed, and another. Two of the babies died of hunger. After five days we were released. Our number was reduced by fourteen—twelve people killed by shells and shrapnel, two children dead of thirst and starvation, and twelve persons wounded. We carried out the wounded.

All of us went home, but Vasya Zankin and his parents had no home to go to—their house and several others, were burned down. The school for deaf mutes was dynamited. This school had been built in our village only a short time before.

We went to our school, but we didn't recognize it. Our school had always been spic and span and very cozy. Now it was a real pigsty. The desks were smashed and the blackboards were broken, the floors were covered with the pages of our textbooks, torn up by the Germans. Other textbooks had been burned in a bonfire, although there was an ample stock of firewood in the school yard.

The German soldiers took whatever they liked, even if they had to drag clothes off a boy in the street. We were afraid to go out on the street in shoes, because those of us who did so usually returned barefooted. German soldiers took away our fur hats, the felt boots which keep us warm in winter, and our overcoats. They liked our brief cases, so the Germans used to stop us on the streets, empty our school books on the ground, and take away our brief cases. They were all sent to Germany. None of us has a brief case any more. They even took some of our toys.

Sometimes the Germans would just destroy whatever they didn't want or couldn't send back to Germany. These were beehives in Kuznetsov's garden. The Germans burned all the beehives. When they retreated

They burned down all the villages near ours. Ours was the only one which escaped. German officers sent three soldiers to set fire to our village before their retreat, but the peasants surrounded them and said, "Don't set fire! Our troops are coming!" The Germans were in a hurry to retreat and we scared them so that they went off to the next village, and ours remained standing, except some of the houses that were burned down earlier. For a long time peasants from the neighboring villages lived with us until they built new houses for themselves.

We have many orphans now, especially around the town of Istra, which is not far from our village. The Germans there killed many men and women who had children. Now these children are all alone. Our government opened a lot of homes for children whose parents were killed by the Germans. There are several homes like that in Moscow Region. The children built them themselves, repaired ruined buildings, made furniture, collected and mended everything, and live there now. People in the cities which are still safe from the Nazis sent toys and books and clothes for the orphans in these homes. Boys and girls, members of our Young Pioneers also helped in this work. Girls sewed clothes for orphans, while boys made toys for them. Boys even came from Uzbekistan, a part of Russia which is far from Moscow-- it is a district in Central Asia, near India. Orphans were adopted by people all over the country, too.

We felt terrible about the destruction of Istra. Istra was our favorite town, and we went there often. It was planted with lovely green trees. There is nothing left now, only a few burnt walls and chimneys. Everything else was destroyed.

We are helping the grown-ups now. We work on vegetable gardens and in the fields, and have almost repaired the damage that the Germans did.

We will be waiting for your reply. Write us all about yourselves and your towns and cities, which we know only from pictures.

With best wishes,

Your friends,

Iryna Terentyeva, Valya Terentyeva, Vitya Khrulev,
Kolya Svirnov, Vasya Zenkin



*do not let the Nazis get you
down, brave comrades*

To my friends in the Soviet Union:

We, here at camp Wo-Chi-Ca, have received your lovely and encouraging letter. Everyone here knows the splendid job your people are doing to win the war against the fascist tyranny of Hitler. Do you know Isabel Suda? Well, she came here to camp Wo-Chi-Ca and told what the brave children of the whole Soviet Union are doing. The little children here were so overwhelmed when they heard what the children who are the same age as themselves were doing to wipe out the Nazis.

We children of Camp Wo-Chi-Ca cannot do as dangerous jobs as you do because the war is not being fought on our own home front, but we are doing all we can. We know what is expected of us and do many things, such as: knitting for the armed forces of your country, my country, and the rest of our brave allies. We make things to send to our soldiers, such as games, checkerboards, etc. Different, gay things which they can hang on their walls. Also, we write letters to show them we think of them often. And, like myself, we are writing to the children of your country. You can soon expect many more letters.

Yet some people here in America say that we shouldn't help you and that we, America, will have to fight you after this war. But the people who say this are only some old cranks and big politicians; the majority of the people know what they are fighting for and want to do all they can.

I want to tell you something about Camp Wo-Chi-Ca. It is like the Soviet Union, only on a smaller scale. We all live as one here, black and white alike, cooperatively, knowing and understanding each other. Here we don't do things separately, but as a group. We, the children of Wo-Chi-Ca, of America, know that if the war comes to our own shores, we will move together as one group to wipe fascism off the face of the earth.

Soviet children, tell your people America will come to your aid with a second front, and the few old cranks and such can't stop us. When this war is over, and we have won, I hope all the children of the world can be one solid group.

Don't let the Nazis get you down, brave comrades, and your country and my country with our brave allies will fight to the bitter end until we win victory. If that is our aim, we will surely win.

So, it is V for Victory, and, even though the ocean separates us, I am,

Your fellow fighter and friend,
Joanie Lifschutz (age 12)

P. S. I forgot to ask, but I would like very much to hear from you again, so please write to me. My address is:

Joan Lifschutz
105-12 Cross Bay Blvd.
Queens, N. Y.

He Was the First: —

—Arthur Hodel

In a house somewhere in the United States lives a hero called "Dad" Jones. He got this nickname because his first name is Donald. Gardania joined the air force because he wanted to beat Hitler. When this story begins, the day is December 7, 1941.

Gardania was in his fighter plane, cruising along, a little north-west of the Hawaiian Islands. Soon he sighted nine Japanese bombers! He followed his commanding officer and got orders to intercept them. He pressed the button that controls the machine guns, and the guns on his right wing spit fire. One bomber went down. Another bomber entered the range of his machinegun sight.

Again he pressed that button. Another bomber went down. But fate wasn't all in his favor. One of the bombers got a luck shot and blasted his machine guns. Gardania tried his shell gun, and hoped. This time he got another bomber, but his right wing was machinegunned, badly. The rest of the Japanese bombers fled. Thus the raid on Pearl Harbor could have been almost twice as bad had it not been for the alertness of Gardania.

Gardania Jones is a freedom fighter whom we should all know about. We children should try to help in the fight for Victory as much as we can.

How We Can Fight, too: —

—Frances Murray

"Dad!" cried Dick, a young boy, about 12. "The salvage club offers tickets for the parade to the group that collects one hundred or more pounds of scrap."

"Is your gang in on it?" asked Dad.

"Why, certainly. My gang wouldn't miss anything like that. Besides, what's more important is that it is for Victory."

That week Dick's gang worked very hard every day. They went around to houses collecting scrap war material. Finally, after one week, they brought the scrap to the neighborhood salvage committee. Dick's gang had collected 180 pounds of scrap, and they got the tickets to the parade.

Other children in the United States can help the same way: by collecting metal, paper, rubber, dye, tinfoil, and other valuable war materials. Children can also buy war stamps, give to different war relief societies, and write to the President urging him to open a western front.

Everything you do—every piece of scrap you collect, brings Victory one step nearer for the Allies. If we do these things we show that we are truly freedom-fighters.



My Winter Camp

Harry Glavin

My parents decided to send me to camp. They didn't know what camp to choose, and, hearing about Wo-Chi-Ca, they decided to send me there. It was as good or bad as any other, they figured. I didn't want to go to camp. I had heard something about camps, and I thought I wouldn't have a good time at this Wo-Chi-Ca. They wouldn't let me go out or read joke books. Somewhere I also heard that Wo-Chi-Ca is an educational camp; who wants education in the summer when we have it all year 'round in school?

But I came to camp. First we were assigned to our counselors and bunkmates. Having decided in advance that I was going to dislike it thoroughly, I must have acted the part, because the girls thought I was snobbish.

.....
I was at camp only a few days when my attitude toward life itself changed entirely. I learned, for the first time, how all people, regardless of race, color, or creed, live together as one large happy family, and gain from this relationship. I learned that Negro and white are equals, and that was something I never knew or had thought about.

Every moment of my time was spent in learning and enjoying wonderful new things—working for Victory and having a swell time doing it.

When the day came for me to leave camp I felt bad. But my counselor told me about an organization which was just like Wo-Chi-Ca. That organization, she said, is called the I.W.O., which stands for International Worker's Order. In fact, I heard some campers say that the I.W.O. was their winter camp.

As soon as I returned to the city I joined a lodge, and I am convinced that this is my winter camp. Just like camp, the I.W.O. consists of people of various nationalities. The I.W.O. is interested in the welfare of the community, cleaning up the slums, doing away with racial discrimination.

Today the I.W.O. is organizing labor for victory. They are starting various first aid classes and are collecting scrap for defense. Everything possible is done to speed up production, upon up that second front, and lick Hitler, so that all people may live in brotherhood.

Aside from this there are various social activities, such as folk dancing, square dancing, bugle and drum corps, arts and crafts, etc., for the young people. More and more lodges are being organized throughout the country. There is a lodge in your community, and I'll bet that the I.W.O. will be your winter camp, just as it became mine.

We freedom-fighters on the home front, the youth of America who want to see the end of fascism in 1942, so that we may go to build a better world for ourselves, can really do our part by joining an I.W.O. lodge and get going in our community for Victory.

For further information on the I.W.O. and its activities, see the following Counsellors: Dave, Labe, Edie, Natalie, Meyer, Whitey.

They'll be glad to see you.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY**

N.Y. FILE NO. **100-25857** RAA

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 12/8/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/17, 18, 19/42	REPORT MADE BY <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em;"></div>
TITLE PAUL ROBESON			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ROBESON born April 9, 1898, Princeton, New Jersey. Attended Rutgers College on scholarships, receiving B.A. degree in 1919. Attended Columbia, afterwards receiving LL.B. Member of American Peace Mobilization, Citizens Committee to Free Harry Bridges, and International Labor Defense Committee, 1942, and other similar organizations. Signed petition for BROWDER'S release in 1942. Travelled abroad extensively. Sent his son to school in the USSR, because he thought boy could grow up normally there. Information from confidential informants pertaining to subject set out.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASS. & EXT. BY **SP5 RJG/clm**
- P REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4. 2.3
DATE OF REVIEW **11-20-90**

DETAILS:

The investigation in this case is predicated upon the fact that it appears that PAUL ROBESON is a member of a number of Communist front organizations.

advises that at a dinner which he attended on at

During the conversation which followed, informant advises that the following remarks were made:

ROY HUDSON opened the conversation by stating that ROOSEVELT used the Army to reopen the "struck" plant but did not use his strength to force the employers to give the workers a square deal; that the employers wanted the workers to go back to work on a conditional defeat; also that even though the workers had to retreat, it did not mean an end to the struggle.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em;"></div>	SPECIAL AGENT <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em;"></div>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau 1 - Capt. R. C. MacFall, ONI 1 - Col. S. V. Constant, G-2 2 - New York		100-12304-1 CONFIDENTIAL 12 DEC 10 1942 RECORDED INDEXED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Later in the conversation, according to the informant, ROBESON stated that he would sing in the Hollywood Bowl on August 21, 1941, and that the Texas Company had turned over its hour to assist in the selling of defense bonds and had asked him to go on the program. Continuing in his comments, the informant stated that ROBESON in substance said that his manager gave the Texas Company some sort of an excuse, because he, ROBESON'S manager, knew that ROBESON would not go on such a program. ROBESON also stated that Hollywood is just full of Reds and that he can do a lot of good out there.

ROBESON is said to have made the remark that he was working on a Communist moving picture, whereupon HUDSON replied that he had seen a cut of it and thought that the picture was very powerful, with good photography, although the material was fragmentary at this stage. ROBESON remarked that CHARLIE CHAPLIN started his picture and found himself in a period in which it might be termed radical.

Continuing, ROBESON stated that one of the most important things was to get the picture out without adverse publicity. He said that the financial problem is one of the greatest, but that he, ROBESON, was working on that phase of the question at the present time. HUDSON is said to have replied that the picture will be a powerful experiment as there never has been a movie like it before.

From the conversation which followed [REDACTED] states that ROBESON said that it was their intention to take the picture to Carnegie Hall and present it in conjunction with a concert. The concert would be the "blind." HUDSON is said to have replied that it would have a direct appeal to the labor, as they would be able to witness a gallant struggle for their own rights, and further, even if the picture would not now be a success, it must come out as there has been so much delay, and promises.

[REDACTED] noted during this conversation that ROBESON stated that the African Methodist Episcopal Church was the "lousiest" organized church in the country; further, that he was going to work with JOE and GRANVILLE HICKS, as well as ROCKWELL KENT, were mentioned, it being stated that one of them has a lot of appeal to the masses. b7

The informant advised that ROBESON is said to have a very good contact with the CIO people and will have numerous opportunities to contact MURRAY (probably PHIL MURRAY, President of the CIO). The name of QUILL (President of the Transport Workers Union) was also mentioned in this connection. [REDACTED] advised that HUDSON told ROBESON that the latter had made a great personal impression on MURRAY.

It was learned from this same confidential source that ROBESON stated at the above-mentioned time that he was going to do many work records through Columbia Broadcasting Company. HUDSON mentioned the WPA folk song collection, which was shelved by the reactionaries when war broke out. HUDSON said he had heard some of the records which were made and observed that ROBESON

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

should somehow get access to this material. To this ROBESON is said to have replied that he has contacts in the Library of Congress and will try to get this material and adopt it to the cause.

At this point ROBESON told how he sang a simple version of "John Henry" at the Ford meeting. He stated that all the listeners were very much impressed. It is to be noted that HUDSON remarked that "John Henry" will become the battle song of the Party and observed that it will replace the religious angle of the Negro spiritual with the correct appeal for the masses. At this point, according to [REDACTED] there was much laughing and joking about the "Star Spangled Banner."

Later in the meeting it was suggested by the unidentified Negro that an autobiography be written about PAUL ROBESON setting forth his life of strife for the enlightenment of the Negro race. HUDSON thought that a full-sized book would not be wise inasmuch as it would have to portray the beliefs ROBESON has, and such would probably prove unjust to the cause due to the feeling against the Party. It was agreed that a few articles setting forth the life of ROBESON would suffice at this time.

It was related by [REDACTED] that at this junction ROBESON told how his father, a minister, died when he, PAUL, was six years old; that they were living in New Jersey at the time, and ROBESON practically became an orphan from the death of his father. He stated that his father was born in North Carolina in 1843 and escaped from slavery at the age of fifteen via the underground system; that he went to Philadelphia, where he married a free Negress. ROBESON said that his mother's family looked down on his father's people as they were a poor Carolina type that scratched out an existence after the Civil War. ROBESON stated, however, that after his father's death the Carolina branch were the people who practically kept him from starving by sending a meager assortment of foodstuffs to him. He explained that this and the Spanish trouble, coupled with the refugee struggle of Austria, influenced his present stand and caused him to see his duty to the struggling poor of his race as well as other races. [REDACTED] advised that ROBESON remarked something to the effect that "Most people don't realize this, as they think of me as an all-American football player and a great and rich singer." ROBESON also said that it might be a good idea to put this struggle of his life before the Negro people.

According to this source of information, ROBESON is said to have stated that most of that which he is going to do for the masses is ahead and will take place in the next two years.

[REDACTED] advised that MARION HART, active member of the National Library Committee of the Communist Party, contacted ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG and advised that she had a dinner party for PAUL ROBESON on March 23, 1942, at the Commodore Hotel, and that over one thousand people had attended.

[REDACTED] advised that on the evening of March 23, 1942, at a dinner party given by the Spanish Aid Committee at the Biltmore Hotel, New York City, in honor of PAUL ROBESON, Negro singer, ROBESON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

had made the greatest and longest speech of his career. [REDACTED] states ROBESON had been introduced as the greatest anti-Fascist of today and that ROBESON in turn had stated the keynote of the dinner by stating that "The greatest anti-Fascist, Earl Browder, is in jail." It is to be noted that [REDACTED] advised that the success of this dinner was indicated by the money contributed at the meeting by those attending, which was in the amount of \$10,000.

[REDACTED] advises [REDACTED] arrangements had been made for a meeting on April 2, 1942, at 3:30 p.m., at the apartment of HELEN ERYANT, 317 Fourth Street, New York City. The meeting was attended by ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG and the following Negroes: MAX YERGAN, JAMES FORD, ROY HUDSON, PAUL ROBESON, and EDWARD I. ARONOW, who are members of the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder. The purpose of this meeting, according to [REDACTED] was to draft a letter in connection with the Free Earl Browder Campaign. ROBESON'S personal stationery was used in sending this letter to approximately three hundred individuals, the majority of whom were located in Washington, D. C. [REDACTED] advised that the letter was signed by ROBESON and forwarded to friends and admirers of his in the United States and in various public offices. In this connection, [REDACTED] advised that the names of HARRY HOPKINS and HAROLD ICKES were mentioned.

It was determined from the information furnished by [REDACTED] that PAUL ROBESON is co-author, along with DR. MAX YERGAN, of a book entitled "The Negro and Justice."

On April 3, 1942, it was determined from [REDACTED] that LOUIS WEINSTOCK, ROY HUDSON, PAUL ROBESON, JAMES FORD, MAX YERGAN, and EDWARD I. ARONOW actually drafted the letter referred to above, and it was taken to Washington by ARONOW.

[REDACTED] advised that TRACHTENBERG has related that PAUL ROBESON was desirous of accompanying the delegation that would deliver the letter in Washington, and that inasmuch as ROBESON had been speaking to many Negroes he would be one of the delegates to meet with the Attorney General.

It was learned from [REDACTED] that MARION HART contacted TRACHTENBERG some time between March 23, 1942, and April 2, 1942, and advised that the dinner held at the Biltmore Hotel in honor of PAUL ROBESON, which was given by the Spanish Aid Committee on March 23, 1942, had been a great success. He stated that she regretted the speech given by ROBESON had not been recorded in some way, inasmuch as this speech was the best and longest that ROBESON had ever given. MARION HART advised, according to [REDACTED] that she had not seen ROBESON since 1926, but that he had recognized her in spite of this lapse of time, and that she had conversed with him at length, believing that he was a wonderful man. According to [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] MARION HART stated that ROBESON did not leave "Hellman's" (probably LILLIAN HELLMAN) until 1:45 a.m., and that he had then gone to another meeting. TRACHTENBERG inquired as to whether this meeting was with MAX YERGAN, to which MARION HART replied in the affirmative.

On [REDACTED] it was learned from [REDACTED] b7D that ANDREE EMERY (she is the wife of HUDSON) made arrangements with individuals, some of whom were MAX UNGER, JAMES FORD, and PAUL ROBESON, as regards a birthday party to be held at 21 West Tenth Street, the home of ROY HUDSON, for PAUL ROBESON and ROY HUDSON on April 8, 1942. [REDACTED] advised that MAX YERGAN, PAUL ROBESON, AL LANNON, EARL ROBINSON, BEN DAVIS, and JAMES FORD, accompanied by their wives, attended this party.

From [REDACTED] it was learned that LOUIS WEINSTOCK, Chairman of the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder, contacted JAMES FORD of the National Headquarters of the Communist Party to advise that one MILTON, who is connected with the Citizens Committee, communicated with him, WEINSTOCK, on April 21, 1942. He advised that a large hall in Washington, D. C., had been reserved for a celebration on May 20, 1942, which was EARL BROWDER'S birthday, and that they had wanted PAUL ROBESON, noted Negro singer, to participate in that rally. JAMES FORD advised that ROBESON was at that time in Nashville, Tennessee, but that he, FORD, would contact ROBESON as soon as the latter returned to New York City to ascertain whether or not ROBESON would be able to participate in the meeting.

The following is included in this report from information submitted by [REDACTED] as it is believed to be relevant and pertinent to the activities of PAUL ROBESON:

A memorandum dealing with the National Negro Congress bears no identifying heading or other information to show its origin, being dated "Tuesday" and headed "The Proposed National Conference of the Negro Congress." The writer, whose name is not given, sets out the belief that it would be inadvisable and incorrect to convene either in national convention or conference of the National Negro Congress or generally to try to revive or to build it up as a national organization. He points out that while the National Negro Congress played a successful and important role formerly, now it has been unable to adapt itself to conditions and to re-group and strengthen its forces and influence, and that for many reasons it is not the proper organization for uniting and mobilizing today and drawing masses of the Negro people in active support of the national war effort. This writer points out, however, that unlike the American Youth Congress or the American People's Mobilization it is possible for the National Negro Congress unofficially, and through many of its leaders, as individuals, to play a leading role in helping to rally and unify the Negro people and to help to crystallize a powerful mass movement of a national front character with the main objectives of promoting national unity and the national policy. The writer points out that many of the leaders of the National Negro Congress are men of great prestige and great political influence. He suggests that instead of

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working to call a national conference of the National Negro Congress, it would be timely and feasible to initiate a broad national conference of the Negro people and their main organizations for the purpose of mobilizing the Negro people for the national war effort. He suggests that such a conference might best be sponsored by individual leaders, representative spokesmen of national unity among the Negro people. Included in this should be such people as PAUL ROBESON, MAX YERGAN, EARL B. DICKERSON, ROBERT WRIGHT, and others.

[redacted] advised further that on April 23, 1942, JAMES FORD and an unidentified individual, who was recently in Nashville, Tennessee, were informed that PAUL ROBESON spoke on the campus at Nashville and that many fine contacts had been made at Tuskegee, Alabama, and Nashville, Tennessee.

[redacted] advised that PAUL ROBESON is a member of the following front organizations:

Member of the National Council of the American People's Mobilization

Member and sponsor of the Citizens Committee for Harry Bridges

Sponsor of Assembly for Justice to National Minority

On May 2, 1942, it was determined from [redacted] that an unknown individual contacted ANDREE EMERY, at which time he advised he was trying to arrange for a mass meeting for the Russian War Relief to be held on the 27th of May, 1942, but at that time had been unable to get in touch with LITVINOFF. This unknown individual also advised, according to the informant, that at that time he was anxious to see MAX YERGAN concerning PAUL ROBESON, whom he would like to have sing at the meeting above mentioned.

[redacted] furnished the information that PAUL ROBESON was one of the main sponsors of the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder and also furnished a short resume of his background as follows:

PAUL ROBESON, singer, member of Chicago Emergency Peace Mobilization, 1940, contributor to the "New Theatre" (Communist Party theatre magazine); visited Soviet Union as an ardent admirer of Communism.

It was ascertained from [redacted] that the problem of India's freedom is one in which the Communist Party is taking an active interest, which fact can be seen from the prominent figures who gathered on September 2, 1942, to discuss this question at the meeting which was called by the Communist Council on African Affairs [redacted]

At this meeting it is to be noted that PAUL ROBESON, along with MICHAEL QUILL, CHANNING TOBIAS, and MAX YERGAN, spoke.

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[REDACTED] advised that at Camp WO-CHI-CA there were present during July of 1942 260 children of members of the Communist Party vacationing at the camp.

[REDACTED] advised that displayed on a bulletin board on the campus is an honor roll of the boosters of the above-referred-to camp. Some of the names on the honor roll were MAX YERGAN, ANNETTE RUBENSTEIN, and PAUL ROBESON.

[REDACTED] advised that at a meeting held on Sunday, August 30, 1942, of the New York State Convention of the Communist Party at Manhattan Centre, at 34th Street and Eighth Avenue, an announcement was made requesting that the audience attend two rallies which were to be held during the week of August 30, 1942. One of these rallies, the rally to gain "freedom for India," to be sponsored by the Council on African Affairs, with offices at 1123 Broadway, announced that it would have as its speakers PAUL ROBESON, MAX YERGAN, and MICHAEL QUILL. b7E

On Monday, September 6, 1942, a rally was held at the Central Park Mall under the auspices of the New York State CIO, in cooperation with the USO. At this rally there were approximately seventy-five persons present. Several of the speakers were JOSEPH CURRAN, President of the Greater New York Industrial Union Council; SIDNEY HILLMAN, President of the Amalgamated Workers Union, CIO; and others. After all the speeches had been delivered, PAUL ROBESON sang the song, "Ballads for Americans" and the Russian song, "From Border to Border," which he sang in Russian.

From [REDACTED] it was ascertained that on August 18, 1942, a MRS. LAURENSEN (possibly the wife of JACK LAURENSEN, Vice President of NMU) discussed the question of the new seamen's relief organization with an unknown woman at NMU. At this time MRS. LAURENSEN stated that the organization would be known as the "National Marine Emergency Relief Organization" and that MISS JULIE STEIN, of Room 317, Hotel Roosevelt, New York City, was doing all the organizing work; further, that MISS STEIN has the personal endorsement of JOSEPH CURRAN, PAUL ROBESON, and others.

It is noted that [REDACTED] advised that in addition to the above, STEIN related that the proposed organizations would be composed of five union heads, such as CURRAN and SHEIDY, and would have nothing to do with the organization set up by Admiral LAND or individuals other than unionists.

It was ascertained from [REDACTED] that on August 21, 1942, DAVE GREEN of International Workers Order contacted FERDINAND SMITH and requested the latter to go to the International Workers Order camp for children. It was at this time GREEN also advised that PAUL ROBESON would be at the camp, which is named WO-CHI-CA.

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On [REDACTED] [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] HELEN BRYANT conferred with JOE CURRAN, at which time she stated the Joint Anti-Fascist Committee would give dinners at the Hotel Astor on October 20 and 27, 1942. On this date it was stated that the Committee desired to secure PAUL ROBESON as a speaker.

[REDACTED] relates that a cablegram dated April 3, 1941, to the Inner-Continental News, from World News, 57 Walter House, Strand, London, urgently requested May Day messages of two hundred words each from ROBERT MINOR, PAUL ROBESON, and other people of prominence in the Western Hemisphere. It stated that the message should reach London not later than April 8 and should be regarded as one of great importance.

From [REDACTED] it was also learned that "The Negro and Justice—A Plea for Earl Browder" is a pamphlet written by Dr. MAX YERGAN and PAUL ROBESON, published by the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder, 1133 Broadway, New York, in November, 1941. This pamphlet contains the speeches delivered by ROBESON and YERGAN at a mass meeting at Madison Square Garden on September 29, 1941, under the auspices of the Citizens Committee to Free Browder.

[REDACTED] has submitted information in regard to the motion picture, "Native Land." From this source it was learned that this motion picture is receiving copious reviews in the New York press. It advises that "Native Land" is obviously a Communist project. It is produced by the Frontier Films, which is a Communist instrumentality; it is directed by PAUL STRAND (Communist) and LEO HURWITZ, who has many Communist connections. The commentary is written by DAVID WOLFF, is spoken by PAUL ROBESON and an avowed Communist, and the music is by MARG BLITZSTEIN, Communist song writer. It is noted that this picture, which was filmed over the last three years, purportedly includes scenes that portray violations of civil liberties in the United States. The informant advises that the picture deals with the struggle of the American pioneers with Fascism, the struggle of labor unions against company spies, and the gallant fight against HITLER.

[REDACTED] advised that on July 2, 1941, the American Council on Soviet Relations held a rally in Madison Square Garden, at which time approximately eight thousand people attended. Several individuals spoke, among those being CORLISS LAMONT, SERGEI KOURNAKOFF, a former Czarist cavalry officer, CHARLES KUNTZ, President of ICOR, and PAUL ROBESON, who spoke briefly on the needs for aiding the Soviet Union, in addition to singing several songs.

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED] that the informant was in receipt of information from Vancouver, British Columbia, stating that PAUL ROBESON, prominent American Negro singer, who recently appeared in Vancouver, is reputedly a member of the Communist Party, and that it is stated that at that time he had two sons in the Soviet Union studying under the auspices of the Soviet Government. This source also advised that the first person

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to telephone ROBESON when the latter was in Vancouver under the auspices of the Hilar Attractions was one HAROLD PRITCHETT, who, according to the informant, was refused a visa by the American Consulate at Vancouver upon the ground that he had failed to show that he was not a Communist, [REDACTED]

According to this source, later PAUL ROBESON was visited by representatives of the Civil Liberties League, which organization, [REDACTED] is said to include in its membership wives of well-known Canadian Communists and is alleged to be Communistically controlled.

An examination of the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated November 14, 1942, at New York City, entitled "CONGRESS OF AMERICAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP," at pages 22 and 23 reveals the following information pertinent to subject:

At the mass rally "Salute to our Russian Ally" held at Madison Square Garden on Sunday afternoon, November 8, 1942, with PAUL ROBESON representing the entertainment field, PAUL ROBESON was dramatically introduced to the crowd, when all the lights were extinguished and it was stated that the next person to be heard would be "the voice of the anti-Fascist." At this time, spotlights were directed on the stage, bringing ROBESON into view. He stated, "I am an anti-Fascist. I am an American. I am a Negro." ROBESON proceeded to read a letter which had been written by a twenty-seven year old Red Army soldier who stated he was continually marching westward for freedom. ROBESON stated he did not know the fate of the soldier who wrote this letter, but the mere fact that he had written the letter made him "my friend and yours." ROBESON then sang two songs, namely, "His Motherland" and "From Border to Border," each of which was sung partly in English and partly in Russian. It is noted that the ovation given to ROBESON at the time of his introduction and at the conclusion of his musical offering was perhaps the most voluminous of the afternoon.

From this report it is also ascertained that ROBESON stated that the response to the Congress had been even greater than was expected. He said that every place he appeared in the United States and had mentioned friendship with Russia and had sung the "Red Army Song," the audience had literally "broken it up." ROBESON stated that the work of this Congress must continue; that this was only the beginning. He called on everyone to do his work today by assisting the next speaker, whom he introduced, who was THOMAS L. HARRIS, long associated with the American Committee for Friendship with the Soviet Union and the American Council on Soviet Relations, as well as a faculty member in 1942 at the School for Democracy.

The following is an extract from Who's Who in America, volume 20, for the year 1938-39:

Paul Robeson, born Princeton, New Jersey, April 9, 1898; A.B. Rutgers College, 1919; LL.B. Columbia, 1923; married ESLANDA CARDOZO GOODE, August 17, 1921. Concert tour, Europe, 1926-28; concert tour of Europe, 1931, 38;

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Elan de Cardozo

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Russia, 1936. Star of feature part in motion pictures "Emperor Jones," "Showboat," "King Solomon's Mines," and others. Member of Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Psi Alpha, and Sigma Tau Delta. Picked by Walter Kamp as all-American in 1918. Home: 19 Buckingham Street, London, England; Address: Metropolitan Bureau, 113 West 57th Street, New York City.

The following is an extract from Current Biography, dated 1941, found on pages 716 and 717:

When Robeson left Columbia he was taken into the office of Louis W. Stotesbury, a Rutgers man and a prominent New York lawyer. He has made films for British as well as American producers, having for a long time made his home in England because he found less race prejudice there than in the United States.

The racial problem is one that Robeson has studied thoroughly. It was racial discrimination as much as his own acting ability that caused him to give up his career as a lawyer. He sent his son (in 1921 he married Eslanda Cardozo Goode) to school in the USSR because he thought the boy could grow up normally there, and in January, 1941, Robeson, with four other Negroes and five whites, was suing a San Francisco restaurant, because, they asserted, they had been refused admission. Robeson also frequently speaks out on political issues in which he feels his race is deeply involved. In the Summer of 1940 he was opposing conscription, speaking for peace—later, urging all Negroes in the industry to join the United Automobile Workers of America in their Ford organizing drive. Even later, speaking and singing at benefits for aid to Britain, China, and the Soviet Union, he has been called irradical.

From Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, a party was given on August 25, 1942, in honor of PAUL ROBESON, at Camp WO-CHI-CA. There were banners on all of the buildings and tents which read "WELCOME PAUL ROBESON" and "PAUL ROBESON'S FREEDOMS FIGHTER." He then was escorted to the administration building, where there were more cheers for him, and he was presented with a scroll from the children of the camp. During the presentation of the scroll by a young girl, he became so emotional that tears rolled down his cheeks. When the older folks saw this, many of the women were affected likewise. There was a football game played by the campers in which PAUL ROBESON took part. At the banquet which followed, he presented some of the children with medals for their achievements while at camp. After the banquet, there was a show put on by the children in which they sang songs that were written by PAUL ROBESON. To show his appreciation, PAUL ROBESON then sang several songs requested by the campers. Among the guests present were MR. and MRS. DAVE GREEN, New York State Secretary of the International Workers Order, MAX REDACHT, National Executive Secretary of the IWO, MRS. ANN WILLARD, Director of the School for Democracy, SOL VAIL, Youth Director of the IWO, HELEN VRABEL, National Secretary of the Youth Division of the IWO, and DR. and MRS. KAUFMAN, MR. and MRS. ROBERT ENGEL, HAROLD WILSON of the Harlem Branch of the YMCA, MR. and MRS. MATT HALL, and CHARLES HONIG.

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The indices of the New York Field Division indicate that PAUL ROBESON, whose address is 565 Edgecombe Avenue, New York City, is a member of or connected with the following organizations or movements:

1. The American Peace Mobilization, National Council, 1940
2. The American Rescue Ship Mission, sponsor, 1941
3. The Citizens Committee for Harry Bridges, member and sponsor, 1941
4. Committee for the Release of International Volunteers in Spanish and French Prison Camps, endorser, 1941
5. Negro Committee to Aid Spain with the Medical Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democrats, sponsor, 1937
6. The American Peace Mobilization for Marcantonio, guest of honor, 1941; also sponsor of the same movement in 1941
7. Assembly for Justice to National Minorities, sponsor, 1941
8. Committee Defending Rights of Communists to be on Ballot, signer, 1941
9. Medical Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democrats, National sponsor, 1938
10. American Committee for Democratic and Intellectual Freedom; signed petition sponsored by above organization to discontinue the Dies Committee, 1941
11. Signed petition sponsored by Citizens Committee to Free Browder, March, 1942
12. United American Spanish Aid Committee, sponsor, 1942
13. International Labor Defense, National Committee, 1942
14. Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, speaker at dinner on October 27, 1942

It is noted that there is comment in the following issues of the Daily Worker relative to PAUL ROBESON:

November 4, 1937, on page 7
 January 24, 1938, on page 4
 January 24, 1938, on page 7
 February 4, 1938, on page 1
 May 16, 1939, on page 1
 December 12, 1939, on page 2

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In the November 4, 1937, issue, at page 7, it is noted that PAUL ROBESON is quoted as saying, "When I step on to a stage in the future, I go on as a representative of the working class. I work with a consciousness of that in my mind. Joining unity theatre means identifying myself with the working class."

In the Daily Worker of May 16, 1939, on page 1, PAUL ROBESON points out that there is no discrimination in Soviet circles and that his son, who attended school in Russia, got a cultural advantage there.

From a highly confidential source it was learned by Special Agent [REDACTED] on October 21, 1942, that PAUL ROBESON wrote the hereinafter quoted letter dated September 28, 1942, in connection with activities of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade: b7c

"Dear Friend:

In the prisons and concentration camps of Vichy France, hiding out in huts and villages, dodging the Gestapo day and night, are thousands of the staunchest fighters against fascism. The last time I saw many of them they were fighting on the side of Republican Spain against fascism. Today, they live only in the hope of striking another blow at our common enemy. They look to us alone for help.

Hitler fears the inspiring leadership that these outstanding fighters will give to the people of the Continent when the Allies launch a Second Front. He is determined to exterminate them, as witness the present intensified wave of arrests and reprisals. We must be equally determined to rescue them.

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee during the past year alone paid passages for more than 200 of these tried, indomitable people. Funds which it provided recently enabled 23 Yugoslavs to escape their jailers in France and to rejoin their brothers in the Yugoslav guerrilla army. Many others who were aided are in the ranks of the British Commandos. Scores more are serving on all fronts, from Britain to the Egyptian desert.

Now the Mexican Government has granted thirty-eight new immigration visas. Sixty more are expected within a few weeks. Boats are still sailing from Lisbon and Casablanca to Vera Cruz. We can and must rescue these people while we have this opportunity!

I have complete confidence in the ability of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee to secure the return of these wonderful people to the anti-Axis fighting fronts. The Committee requires \$88,640.00 for transportation and to assist others in France for whom we do not yet have visas.

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These are not ordinary people for whom I appeal. They are men who can and will strengthen the anti-Axis forces in this hemisphere and in Europe. Won't you send your contribution immediately? Won't you send all you can - today?

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Paul Robeson"

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UNDEVELOPED LEAD:

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THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York City, will, from time to time, continue to report current information on the subject as reflected through confidential sources of information.

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IDENTITY OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The confidential informants referred to in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] New York City, dated December 8, 1942, are as follows:

T-1	New York file 100-4931, entitled COMMUNIST PARTY, USA;
T-2	INTERNAL SECURITY - C; ESPIONAGE (R)
T-3	New York file 100-26603, entitled COMMUNIST PARTY, USA; DISTRICT NO. 2, NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION; INTERNAL SECURITY
T-4	New York file 100-28715, entitled NATIONAL MARITIME UNION OF AMERICA; INTERNAL SECURITY - C
T-5	New York file 102-1, entitled COMMUNIST PARTY, USA; VOORHIS ACT
T-6	New York file 65-4309, containing Office of Naval Intelligence memorandums
T-7	New York file 100-7518, entitled American Council on Soviet Relations
T-8	New York file 54-144, serial 1568, entitled COMMUNIST PARTY, USA; NEUTRALITY ACT

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RWB:AKR
1/12/43

Date:

To: Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith
Chief, Special War Policies Unit
War Division

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: PAUL ROBESON
New York, New York

There is being transmitted to the Division of Records under date of January 12, 1943, a copy of the following report containing the pertinent information presently available in the files of this Bureau with respect to the above-captioned individual:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated December 8, 1942, at New York City, entitled "Paul Robeson, Internal Security - C." b7c

It is recommended that this person be considered for custodial detention in view of the existing emergency. It will be greatly appreciated if you will advise this Bureau at your earliest convenience as to the decision reached in this case.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECEIVED READING ROOM
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JAN 12 3 06 PM '43

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 1
cc - Assistant Attorney General
Wheeler, George P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 14 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 11/20/80 BY SP5 RJG/CLW

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
February 19, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: PAUL ROBESON;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

Attached to this letter is an article clipped from the Michigan Chronicle under date of February 6, 1943, entitled, "Paul Robeson Reviews History of Negro Race."

It is thought that perhaps this article, which sets forth the result of an interview with ROBESON, may be of some interest to the Office which may be directing an investigation of an internal security nature on ROBESON.

Inasmuch as it is not known by this Office which Field Office is conducting such an investigation, the attached material is being furnished the Bureau.

It may be mentioned that the Michigan Chronicle is a local Negro newspaper of a decided Communistic vent.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas
JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

COPIES DESTROYED 5-1-58
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Enclosures (2)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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Paul Robeson Reviews History Of Negro Race

By JEANETTA WELCH

"The history of the American Negro is a great part of the history of America, and I am delighted that a week devoted to the life and achievements of these people is to be celebrated in your city and state. It may well serve as a model for the entire country." These words were spoken by Paul Robeson, the great Negro baritone singer to members of the Citizens' committee who visited him in his suite at the Book Cadillac hotel last Sunday. The committee acquainted Mr. Robeson with its plans to celebrate Negro History week February 7 through February 14. The famed artist appeared here in a concert at the Masonic Temple Friday under the auspices of Nellie Watts.

"The traditions of the Negro in this country are rich in those democratic virtues which Americans hold dear—humanized in the deeds of such American heroes as Crispus Attucks, Sojourner Truth—Frederick Douglass, the 369th, Dorrie Miller—and our heroes on various battle-fronts in this world-wide conflict.

"As you know—all my endeavors have been based upon an intense pride in being a Negro, and in playing a part in the cultural life of my people.

"I have immeasurable belief in their future and in the contribution

they can make, if given full opportunities, to building of a truly democratic America."

Mr. Robeson said that he began a fight for the rights of Negroes in England. That instead of 15 million black people being denied full access to opportunities, there were 150 million in Africa. That although he was accorded all the courtesies of an English gentleman, there were those of his group who were denied these privileges. He mentioned having met and discussed race problems with Winston Churchill and Sir Stanford Cripps in person.

When asked about his life in Russia, and whether he intended to live there again, Mr. Robeson said that he never did live in Russia, but visited there many times while living in England. And that while in England he did not encounter as much discrimination as he did in America, yet when he went to Russia, he found no discrimination at all. This made a great impression on him, but he felt no duty to remain in Russia, but to come home again and work for the same kind of freedom he experienced there, to become a reality here.

Mr. Robeson said the thing that impressed him most about the Russian people was that in a single generation they had learned to love

and work for their government because it belonged to them. That out of chaos and ignorance they had built colleges and universities, they had freed their women, and they had tolerated no kind of prejudice against any of their people. He said that the Russian people feel a kindred with the Negro people, or any people that are oppressed, for they remember that once they, too, were bitterly enslaved.

Answering the question, if he intended sending his son back to Russia to live, Mr. Robeson answered, "No," that his son is now in the midst of selecting a school to attend here. He is interested in civil engineering, and while he might, if possible attend some graduate engineering school in Russia as they have excellent engineering schools there, yet he feels that his place is here, and that he can make a contribution. When asked what his son thought about the discrimination in America, Mr. Robeson said, that his son thought it "stupid." After having once been among people who lived together amicably regardless of race, creed or color, it was stupid to think that it could not be done here. Mr. Robeson said that the main reason for taking his son to Russia, was that he "wanted his boy to feel freedom."

When Paul Robeson was here in

1940 he predicted that one of main theatres of war would be waged in North Africa. When asked Sunday why he had made that prediction at that time even before America had entered the war, Robeson said that it came from knowledge of events that were taking place in England, and in France, knowledge gained in traveling in England and Africa. He called Africa the "breadbasket" of the world.

Upon being asked to make future predictions about the theater of this war, without hesitation he said, "Africa and South America." He also said that the future of America is in Africa, and that the great question facing America and England today is "What are we going to do about these colored peoples?"

Mr. Robeson paid tribute to Negro general, Eboue, head of Free French Group in South Africa.

He expressed great pleasure having been to Detroit, and is on his way to Canada then to New York to receive the Abraham Lincoln award. This award is given each year by the Abraham Lincoln high school in Brooklyn, N. Y., outstanding achievements of the year's candidates were Gov. Lehman, Irving Berlin and Robeson with Robeson winning the award.

The Michigan Chronicle

2/6/43

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SEP 28 1973.

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DATE 11/26/80 BY SP5 RSG/CM

ENCLOSURE

100-12304-9

59

JCH:mwm
100-12304

April 30, 1943

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

RE: CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that a custodial detention card has been prepared at the Bureau, captioned as follows:

ROBESON, PAUL

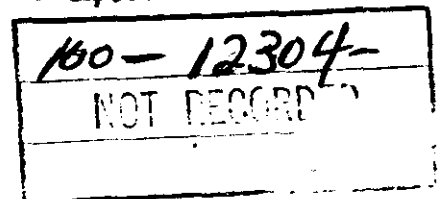
Native Born

COMMUNIST

565 Edgecombe Avenue
New York, New York (Res.)

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/30/80 BY SP5 RSB/cll

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 YER
MAY 14 1977



The above caption should be checked immediately for accuracy against the information contained in your files, and the Bureau should be informed of any discrepancies. You will prepare without delay a 5" x 8" white card captioned as above and reflecting your investigative case file number for filing in your Confidential Custodial Detention Card File. In the event the above caption is not correct, the card you prepare should be correctly captioned, and the Bureau should be informed of the correct caption.

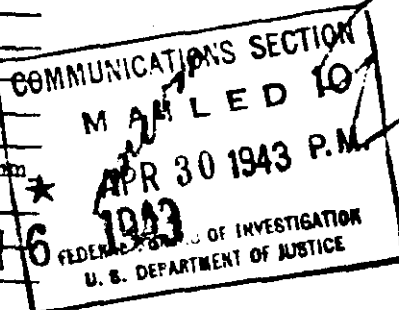
Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Piper _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

The caption of the card prepared and filed in your Office must be kept current at all times and the Bureau immediately advised of any changes made therein in that connection.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director



59 MAY 6

60 JEM

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Washington Field Office, 1435 K Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

MCO:JAG
100-0

August 26, 1943

Director, FBI

Dear Sir:

Re: PAUL ROBESON
Security Matter - C

[REDACTED], advised an agent of this office that recently an unidentified woman related information to her concerning PAUL ROBESON. b7c/b7D

According to the unidentified woman, a colored man who has worked for the woman's husband a number of years told her husband of having been solicited by another Negro in Washington to join the Communist Party. The soliciting member is alleged to have said, by way of attempting to influence the other man, that PAUL ROBESON, the singer, is a leading figure in the Communist Party, and is at the present time actively attempting to influence the Negroes of America to Communism.

Very truly yours,

Guy Hottel
GUY HOTTEL
Special Agent in Charge

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R-18

CC New York

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DATE 11/20/80 BY SP-5 RSG/ewm



RECORDED

INDEXED

24 1943

100-12504-10

25 AUG 28 1943

61



Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
510 Trust Company Building
New Haven, 10, Connecticut
October 16, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: Mrs. PAUL ROBESON
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Dear Sir:

At present Mr. and Mrs. PAUL ROBESON are residing at Enfield, Connecticut, and it has come to the attention of the New Haven Field Office that Mrs. ROBESON has mailed letters addressed to NIMRU, leader second to MAHATMA GHANDI, in India.

Please advise whether or not the Bureau has any information regarding the activities of Mrs. PAUL ROBESON as regards Communism.

Very truly yours,

Roger F. Gleason
Roger F. Gleason
Special Agent in Charge

JHC:MB
100-8032

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Ltr. 6.7.54
11/1/54
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DATE 11/22/80 BY SP-5 RSG/ellm



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35 OCT 18 1943
CJF

CEP:DA

~~100-238364~~

100-12304-10X

RECORDED

November 1, 1943

SAC, New Haven

MRS. PAUL ROBESON
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference is made to your letter dated October 16, 1943,
requesting a search of the Bureau's files concerning the above
captioned individual.

Please be advised that Bureau files contain no information
relative to the Communistic activities of Mrs. Robeson.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 2
★ NOV 1- 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/20/80 BY SP5 RJA/ML

RECEIVED
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per
cep

88 NOV 2 1943

Mr. Tolson ☒
 Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒
 Mr. Clegg ☐
 Mr. Coffey ☐
 Mr. Glavin ☐
 Mr. Ladd ☒
 Mr. Nichols ☒
 Mr. Rosen ☐
 Mr. Tracy ☐
 Mr. Acers ☐
 Mr. Carson ☐
 Mr. Harbo ☐
 Mr. Hendon ☐
 Mr. Mumford ☐
 Mr. Starke ☐
 Mr. Quinn Tamm ☐
 Mr. Nease ☐
 Miss Gandy ☐

F.B.I. RADIOGRAM

DECODED COPY

FROM NEW HAVEN 11-8-43 NR 081820 2:38 PM EWT

DIRECTOR
 PAUL ROBESON, SECURITY MATTER C.

ADVISED THAT PAUL ROBESON, HIS WIFE AND SON WILL BE ENTERTAINED
 AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, THIS DATE.

RECEIVED: 11-8-43 2:45 PM EWT EFT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11/20/80 BY SP-5 RJS/CLM

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated
 outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in
 order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

510 Trust Company Building
New Haven, 10, Connecticut
November 27, 1943

100-8602
JHC:LS

Director, FBI

RE: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
SECURITY MATTER - C

Dear Sir:

Information has been received that PAUL ROBESON, famous negro singer and actor, is now living within the New Haven Field Division at Enfield, Connecticut.

On November 15, 1943 ROBESON made a speech in Boston, Massachusetts, demanding a full investigation of the recent alleged anti-Semitic incidents in Boston.

It is respectfully requested that the Bureau indices be checked for information concerning any Communist activity on the part of PAUL ROBESON, and that the New Haven Field Division be advised of the results of the search as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

Roger F. Gleason
ROGER F. GLEASON,
SAC

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&
INDEXED
49

100-12304-12		
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18	NOV 29 1943	
<i>MB</i>		

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DATE 11/20/80 BY SP-5 RSB/CM

*Reply
ec 11/29/43
12-4-43
Rwts.*

RWB:AKR

100-12304

Date: December 4, 1943

To: SAC, NEW HAVEN

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reference is made to your letter of November 27, 1943, captioned "Paul Leroy Robeson, Security Matter - C," in which you requested information concerning Paul Robeson who, you stated, was now living at Enfield, Connecticut.

There is transmitted herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] made at New York City dated December 8, 1942. You will note that New York has been carried as the office of origin in this case and that Robeson's address was given as 565 Edgecombe Avenue, New York, New York. The New York Office should determine whether Robeson has moved from his New York address and also any other information which would indicate that his center of activities may cease to be New York City. Until this is determined the office of origin will remain in New York.

At the present time it is not desired that the New Haven Office conduct any further investigation in this case but merely report any pertinent information which comes to its attention concerning Robeson.

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Kumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

Enclosure 2

cc - New York

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DATE 11/20/80 BY SP5-RJG/ML

General Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York City

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COB:RMJ
100-25857

December 8, 1943

Director, FBI

RE: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised the New York Office on December 7, 1943 that he had been in receipt of reliable information to the effect that the subject is to run for Congress on an independent ticket in the 1944 elections. Informant was unable to state what particular Congressional district ROBESON will run in.

[redacted] stated he would keep the New York Field Division apprised of any additional developments in connection with the subject's nomination and campaign for Congress.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy
E. E. CONROY
SAC

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R-14

cc. New York File 65-10519

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF [redacted]
DATE [redacted]

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 YER
MAY 14 1971

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

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OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSC/104
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/20/90



COPY IN FILE

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55 DEC 14 1943

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

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100-12304-15

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

NH FILE NO. 100-8032 LS

REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN, CONN.	DATE WHEN MADE 12/18/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/26, 27/43 11/19, 23, 27/43	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, also known as Mrs. Paul Leroy Robeson and Essie Robeson			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject was born on 12/15/1896 at Washington, D.C. The Subject, a colored woman, received a B.S. Degree from Teachers College at Columbia University in 1920 and later worked in the surgical pathological laboratory at Presbyterian Hospital in New York City. She married the renowned negro actor and singer PAUL ROBESON. She has traveled throughout the world with her husband and son, and while living in England she attended the University College in London, 1933-1935 where she studied anthropology. She also resided in Russia with her husband and son for some time during the 1930's. Since 1941 Subject has resided at Enfield, Conn. She is presently studying part time at the Kennedy School of Missions at the Hartford Seminary Foundation. Subject has visited Africa and India and is personal friend with NEHRU, Indian National Congress leader. Recently she entertained the PANDIT sisters, nieces of NEHRU, at her Enfield, Connecticut home. Informants advise the Subject corresponds with NEHRU and other prominent persons, and that she receives communications from the U.S.S.R. Embassy at Washington, D. C. Subject is vitally interested in the matter of racial discrimination and is opposed to race segregation. She subscribes to and receives the "Daily Worker" and the "Worker". She recently attended a reception at the U.S.S.R. Embassy, Washington, D. C. with her husband and son. Description set forth.

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OTHERWISE

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Robert F. Gleason</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-12304-14 32 DEC 23 1943 CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RJS/ctm REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW 11/20/90
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 6 Bureau 2 Washington Field 2 New York 1 G-2 Boston 2 New Haven 1 COPY IN FILE 1cc B/R 7 W. Orin 5-16-44 (m.H.)	

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DETAILS: This investigation is based upon the information furnished by [REDACTED] who stated that she understood that the Subject corresponded with NEHRU, Indian Congress leader, [REDACTED]

She further stated the Subject and her husband, PAUL ROBESON are negroes who are Communists and who are bitter against the white race. She also advised that Subject and her husband have aroused considerable feeling in Enfield, Connecticut as they are the one colored family in Enfield, Conn. with the exception of migrant negro workers in the tobacco fields. [REDACTED] advised that Subject recently wrote a book which is being published by Harpers concerning her trip through Africa.

Pursuant to the above information on October 26, 1943 the Reporting Agent contacted [REDACTED] who stated that she knew the Subject personally, and volunteered the following information:

Mrs. PAUL ROBESON's maiden name is ESLANDA GOODE. She married PAUL ROBESON, the famous negro actor-singer, and they have one child, PAUL ROBESON, JR., who attends high school at Springfield, Massachusetts, and is about seventeen years old. Mrs. ROBESON's mother, Mrs. B. GOODE, lives with the ROBESON's at Enfield, Connecticut. The informant stated that Mrs. ROBESON was a fine woman, and that she had recently written a book about her trip through Africa which concerned the problems of the negro race. The informant said that Mrs. ROBESON recently had written a story about negroes in the war, and that this story also concerned race discrimination.

Recently Mrs. ROBESON made a trip South to Georgia, and upon her return [REDACTED] she had changed her mind considerably concerning the white people in the south. Mrs. ROBESON is very well education, according to the informant, and attended Columbia University. She takes part in the civic affairs at Enfield, Connecticut, which is a small New England town without any industry. Mrs. ROBESON is a member of the Red Cross Motor Corps at Enfield, and the informant stated that she believed her to be a one hundred per cent American. However, the informant advised that Mrs. ROBESON does receive the "Daily Worker" [REDACTED]

At the present time Mrs. ROBESON is attending classes part time at the Hartford Seminary Foundation. The week prior to the interview with [REDACTED], Mrs. ROBESON entertained the PANDIT sisters, nieces of the Indian leader NEHRU, at her home at Enfield. These girls are presently attending Wellesley College.

Mrs. ROBESON [REDACTED] had a brother who was in Russia at the present time operating a show or circus of some sort. The informant stated that Mrs. ROBESON receives letters from India, [REDACTED]

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

The ROBESON'S home is a large stucco house about three-fourths of a mile north of the Enfield center, and is referred to as "The Beeches". The informant described Mrs. ROBESON as follows:

Age	43 or 44 years
Complexion	Light Brown
Height	5' 5"
Weight	140 lbs
Eyes	Brown
Features	Negroid, but finer than the average Negro features
Hair	Black, some gray.

The Reporting Agent contacted [REDACTED] in Hartford, Connecticut. [REDACTED] the original complainant, stated that she had nothing to add to the information which she had already submitted and that her informant was [REDACTED] also of Enfield, Connecticut. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was a close friend of hers, but that [REDACTED] would have nothing to add to the information already submitted.

[REDACTED] advised that he had not known Mrs. ROBESON very long, but that he did know she was well liked by the students at the Hartford Seminary Foundation and that his impression was that Mrs. ROBESON was one hundred per cent American and not a radical in any sense of the word.

A discreet inquiry was made of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] that he had known both PAUL ROBESON and his wife, ESLANDA very well for quite a few years. He said that as he remembered Mrs. ROBESON graduated from Barnard College at Columbia University, at the age of sixteen, and that she received her Master's Degree from Teacher's College at Columbia University. He said that she was now 47 years old and was very much interested in the racial discrimination problem.

[REDACTED] stated that Mrs. ROBESON has made anthropology studies in Africa and wrote a book on the subject. At present she is attending the Kennedy School of Missions one or two days a week and is doing research on anthropology. [REDACTED] said that Mrs. ROBESON was very energetic, well liked and had never discussed politics. Mrs. ROBESON recently went to a conference in the South, which was a conference between nine whites and nine negroes from North and South.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Upon her return home, Mrs. ROBESON [REDACTED] had learned she could not type a person by geographical location. [REDACTED] said that Mrs. ROBESON after her graduation from Columbia had worked at a research center, which he thought was the Presbyterian Hospital in New York City. The informant stated that while living in England with her husband in the 1930's, the Subject studied under world renown anthropologists. [REDACTED] stated that in his opinion neither the Subject nor her husband would in any way seek to overthrow the Government of the United States nor would they cause any change through force, violence or revolution. He stated that he believed both to be loyal citizens of the United States, and vitally interested in the problem of racial discrimination and the elevation of the Negro race.

On October 27, 1943 [REDACTED] was contacted at the Connecticut State Motor Vehicle Department in the State Office Building at Hartford. [REDACTED] advised that ESLANDA G. ROBESON had filed an application for Connecticut State Motor Vehicle operator's license on April 29, 1942, which application revealed the following information:

Name	ESLANDA G. ROBESON
Race	Negro
Height	5' 4 1/2"
Weight	140 lbs.
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Black
Address	"The Beeches", Thompsonville, Conn.
Occupation	Housewife
Education	College
Date of Birth	12/15/1896
Place of Birth	Washington, D. C.
Residence	State of Connecticut since 1941

[REDACTED] said that at the time of her application, Mrs. ROBESON held New York Operator's license No. 1416100 for the year, 1941. A Connecticut license was issued to her for the year 1942.

On November 19, 1943 Reporting Agent recontacted [REDACTED] who advised that Mrs. ROBESON and her son Paul had gone to Washington, D. C. for a reception at the Russian Embassy during the first week in November, 1943. Upon her return Mrs. ROBESON described the reception [REDACTED] and stated that her son PAUL had met the Vice President of the United States, HENRY A. WALLACE, and that the Russian Embassy considered the ROBESONS as representatives of the Soviet Union in the United States.

On October 16, 1943 on page 16 of the "Hartford Courant" there appeared a news article entitled, "Indian Girls Guests At Foundation--Wellesley

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

"Students and Mrs. PAUL ROBESON Tour Seminary; Honored at Tea". This article stated that the Misses PANDIT, nieces of Nehru, Indian National Congress leader, who are now in the United States attending Wellesley College in Massachusetts, visited Mrs. PAUL ROBESON at Enfield, Connecticut over the week end. During this visit the Pandit sisters went to the Hartford Seminary Foundation with Mrs. ROBESON and accompanied her to classes in which she is enrolled there.

On October 15, 1943 the pictures of the PANDIT sisters appeared in the "Hartford Times", and again the news article accompanying the picture stated that the PANDIT sisters were guests of Mrs. PAUL ROBESON of Enfield. ←

[REDACTED] c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8932

b1

In connection with the above reported results [REDACTED] it should be noted that the following publications are reported as Communistic in character:

"Bread and Butter", 17 Union Square, N. Y. C., Communist controlled.
"Daily Worker" and the "Worker", "New Masses", "The Pilot", a weekly publication of the National Maritime Union.

It should also be noted that the Council on African Affairs, 1123 Broadway is reported as a Communist Front organization whose Chairman is PAUL ROBESON and whose Executive Director is MAX YERGAN.

P E N D I N G

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTONFIELD DIVISION,

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will verify the Subject's birth at Washington, D. C. on December 15, 1896 in the name of ESLANDA C. GOODE. If a birth record is found will report full details, including names of parents, etc.

Will check the records of the Passport Division of the State Department for information concerning the Subject's travel abroad, and it should be noticed that she has made numerous trips to all parts of the world. All background information which is available, including personal data, should be reported in detail.

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK CITY

Will make a discreet inquiry at Teachers' College Columbia University where the Subject received her B. S. Degree in 1920, and will check the records there for information pertinent to this investigation and for all background information which may be obtained regarding the Subject. In no event should the nature of this inquiry be disclosed.

Will check the marriage records in the City of New York for the record of the Subject's marriage to PAUL LEROY ROBESON. This marriage should have been performed during the early 1920's.

Will make a very discreet inquiry regarding the Subject's work at the Presbyterian Hospital where it is reported she worked in the surgical pathological laboratory after her graduation from Columbia University. This inquiry should be made with the utmost discretion, and all background information available should be obtained if it is possible, but in no event should the nature of this investigation be disclosed.

Will make a discreet inquiry to ascertain if the ROBESON's maintain a New York residence at 555 Edgecomb Avenue.

100-8032

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEW YORK CITY (Continued)

Will check the New York Field Division indices for any information contained therein regarding the Subject.

THE NEW HAVEN FIELD DIVISION

AT HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Will recontact [REDACTED] for further information regarding the Subject. b7D

Will also contact Confidential Informants [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] re- b1
garding the same.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

~~INITIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

Confidential Informants, as mentioned in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated December 18, 1943, at New Haven, Connecticut, are as follows:

[REDACTED] She requested that her identity be undisclosed.

[REDACTED] He requested that his identity be concealed.

[REDACTED] He requested that his identity be concealed.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~INITIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW HAVEN**

FILE NO **100-14994**

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 1/12/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/28, 30/43	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, also known as Mrs. Paul Leroy Robeson and Essie Robeson			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ESLANDA C. GOODE born December 15, 1895, at Washington, D. C. Subject has had temporary residence in England on several occasions, has travelled extensively over the European countries, also some travel over South America for professional work.

- HUC -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** dated December 18, 1943, at New Haven, Connecticut. b7c

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.:

DECLASSIFIED BY **SP2 BTJ**
ON **1/15/82**

The writer personally checked the Vital Statistics Records and they reflected that the subject was born on December 15, 1895, at 2216 13th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; subject's mother's maiden name was ESLANDA CARDOZA and that her mother was born in the State of South Carolina. Her father's name was JOHN J. GOODE, whose occupation was listed as Clerk and whose birthplace was given as Illinois. The subject was the third child born to this union. Dr. H. SKROGSTAD, 915 16th Street, N. W., was present at the birth of the child.

Special Agent **[REDACTED]**, ascertained through Confidential National Defense Informant **[REDACTED]** whose identity is known to the Bureau, that the records of the State Department reflected the following information: b7c
b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-12304-15	RECORDED & INDEXED EX-24
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 3 New Haven 2 Washington Field		22 JAN 15 1944	
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE		CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5/25C/CLM	DATE OF REVIEW 1/16/80

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WFO File #100-14994

Emergency Passport Number 225 was issued on August 22, 1925, to ESLANDA ROBESON by the American Consulate General at London, England. In her application for the passport ESLANDA ROBESON stated that she had been included on the passport issued to her husband, PAUL Le ROY ROBESON, Number 106695, on July 29, 1925, and that she now desired the Emergency Passport for travel to France, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, and Germany. The application further reflected that the subject was born in Washington, D. C., on December 15, 1895, that she maintained her legal residence in New York and that she was temporarily residing in London where she had arrived on August 5, 1925. No occupation was shown.

Passport Number 464273 was issued to ROBESON on October 8, 1927, at Washington, D. C., for an intended trip to France, Italy, and Spain for travel. In her passport application, the subject advised that she had resided in England from August, to October of 1925, and in France from October, to December of 1925. She listed her occupation as a chemist.

Passport Number 146587 was issued to ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, on December 3, 1929, who stated in her application that she contemplated making a one-year trip to all countries and specifically, to England, France, and Germany, for the purpose of travel. The subject stated that she had resided in England from May, 1928, to October, 1929. This passport was renewed at London by the American Consulate General on December 28, 1931, upon the application of the subject who advised that she was residing in London with her husband.

Passport Number 1331 was issued on May 8, 1934, to the subject by the American Consulate General at London, England. ESLANDA ROBESON advised that she is still residing in London with her husband and that their intentions to return to the United States were indefinite. This passport was renewed on May 13, 1936, by the American Consulate General at London.

Passport Number 201 was issued to ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON on December 18, 1937, by the American Consulate General at London where the subject stated she had been residing since 1928, with regular trips to the United States. She advised that she desired the passport for travel to England, France, Russia, Belgium, and Spain for business and pleasure, although no occupation was given. The passport was restricted to prohibit travel to Spain. In the passport application the subject advised that her father, JOHN GOODE, was deceased, that her mother, ESLANDA CARDOZA, was at that time residing at the Metropolitan Hotel in Moscow, Russia. She also listed as a reference in the United States, Mr. ROBERT ROCKMORE, 10 East 40th Street, New York City, a lawyer.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WFO File #100-14994

On December 30, 1937, the Spanish Embassy requested the Department of State to lift the passport restriction in the subject's passport, advising that she had been invited to accompany her husband on his visit to Spain. In response to the request the Department of State advised the American Embassy to validate the passport to permit travel in Spain and this was done on January 10, 1938.

On August 1, 1940, ROBESON's passport was renewed at New York to permit contemplated travel to Costa Rica and Honduras for the purpose of professional work in anthropology. In her application for the renewal the subject advised that she was residing at 555 Edgecomb Avenue, New York, New York, and that she contemplated departing on the SS Platamo at the port of New York on August 3, 1940.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, N. Y.

COB:MYW
100-25857

February 3, 1944

Director, FBI

RE: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

As a result of recent inquiries and investigation, it was determined that the subject presently resides at 132 East 38th Street, New York City.

The appropriate changes have been made on the security index cards now maintained in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/10/80 BY SP-5 RJB/CLM

E. E. CONROY, Jr.
SAC



cc: New Haven

RECORDED

61 MAR 22 1944

100-12304-16
F B I
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

FILE NO. **100-8032**

FCM

REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT	DATE WHEN MADE 2/10/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/27; 2/2/44	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, also known as Mrs. Paul LeRoy Robeson; Essie Robeson			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject called for social, economic and actual emancipation of the Negro in a speech at Hartford on December 12, 1943. She cited Russia as a country where discrimination had been abolished. On January 7, 1944, she made a similar speech before the Civitan Club at Hartford, Connecticut. [REDACTED] b1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- P -</p> <p>REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED], dated December 18, 1943, at New Haven, Connecticut. Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated January 12, 1944, at Washington, D.C. b7c</p> <p>DETAILS: <u>AT HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT</u></p> <p>On December 12, 1943, Mrs. PAUL ROBESON gave a talk at the Bellevue Square Community Auditorium in Hartford, Connecticut, during which she stated that scientific investigation has proven racial differences to be purely superficial and called for social, economic and "actual" political emancipation for the Negro now, according to a news article appearing in the Hartford COURANT on December 13, 1943. This news item further quoted Mrs. ROBESON as stating "Discrimination against our people is a problem facing democracy as a working ideology and discrimination is another phase of the attempt to keep democratic ideas from being realized." She continued, "For the last 75 years we have been told that education, social freedom and economic equality will be accorded us gradually. We are sick of hearing that. If it was possible to give these things to the minority groups in</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 5 - Bureau 1 - New York 1 - MID Boston 3 - New Haven		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="text-align: center;">100-12304-17 CONFIDENTIAL 38 FEB 12 1944</div> <div style="float: right; text-align: right;">RECORDED & INDEXED 11/2/50 CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 RSC/ctm REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW 11/20/80</div>	

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OTHERWISE**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

in Soviet Russia in 25 years, it is possible to allow us these things now." She stated that a concerted program to eradicate racial discrimination by mass education and legislation offers the best means of eliminating the problem, and that just such a program had wiped out discrimination against the minorities in the Soviet Union.

On January 7, 1944, Mrs. ROBESON gave another talk on discrimination before the Civitan Club at the Bond Hotel in Hartford. On January 8, 1944, a news item concerning Mrs. ROBESON'S talk appeared in the Hartford COURANT entitled, "Mrs. ROBESON Makes Plea For Negroes". The newspaper quoted Mrs. ROBESON as saying, "Part of a vast army engaged in a war for freedom, American Negro soldiers stationed in camps in Mississippi are thinking that the South Pacific is a long way to go to fight for that freedom." She also stated that unless the problem of relations is solved soon, "hostilities on the home front will 'break out into open war before long'." The news item stated that Mrs. ROBESON proposed the institution of a code of laws to make discrimination and "name calling" criminal offenses as a scientific way of coping with the situation. She said that although there is a whole religion about it and a political statement in our Constitution, nobody seems to pay any attention to equality and democracy.

The press notice also appeared in the Hartford TIMES on January 7, 1944, regarding the same speech, which news item was entitled "Mrs. ROBESON Raps Racial Barriers".

b1
[REDACTED] c
[REDACTED] c
[REDACTED] c
[REDACTED] c
[REDACTED] c
[REDACTED] c
[REDACTED] c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

b1 [REDACTED] c
[REDACTED] c
[REDACTED] c
[REDACTED] c

In this connection, it should be noted that RITA MANGINI of Thompsonville, Connecticut, is a known member of the Communist Party at Hartford, Connecticut.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- P E N D I N G -

-3-

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

* AT NEW YORK CITY

* Will make a discreet inquiry at Teachers' College, Columbia University where the subject received her B.S. Degree in 1920, and will check the records there for information pertinent to this investigation and for all background information which may be obtained regarding the subject. In no event should the nature of this inquiry be disclosed.

* Will check the marriage records in the City of New York for the record of the subject's marriage to PAUL LEROY ROBESON. This marriage should have been performed during the early 1920's.

* Will make a very discreet inquiry regarding the subject's work at the Presbyterian Hospital where it is reported she worked in the surgical pathological laboratory after her graduation from Columbia University. This inquiry should be made with the utmost discretion, and all background information available should be obtained if it is possible, but in no event should the nature of this investigation be disclosed.

* Will make a discreet inquiry to ascertain if the ROBESON'S maintain a New York residence at 555 Edgecomb Avenue.

* Will check the New York Field Division indices for any information contained therein regarding the subject.

NEW HAVEN FIELD DIVISION

AT HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Will contact Confidential Informants [redacted] and [redacted] for further information regarding the subject and her activities.

b1

- P E N D I N G -

-4-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

84

RWB:HEW

SAC, New York

March 8, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

PAUL ROBESON, INTERNAL SECURITY - C
FREDERICK N. MYERS; INTERNAL SECURITY - C

The Bureau is in receipt of the following information from
Cable Censorship:

To: George Dimitroff, Moscow (URSS) From: Paul Robeson, Frederick Myers, Vice
President, National Maritime Union Co-
Chairman Reichstag Fire Trial Anniversary
Committee 55 West 42nd Street, New York.

HISTORIC REICHSTAG FIRE TRIAL IN WHICH YOU PROVIDING WORLD'S FIRST MAJOR
VICTORIES OVER FASCISM WILL BE OBSERVED EXACTLY TWENTY-ONE AT GREAT TENTH
ANNIVERSARY RALLY CARNEGIE HALL NEW YORK STOP TRIBUTE WILL BE PAID TO VICTIMS
OF THAT AND SUBSEQUENT ANTI-FASCIST STRUGGLES BY NOTED PERSONALITIES INCLUDING
LILLIAN WILMAN COMRADE ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS COMRADE CHANNING TORLES OF YUCA
NATIONAL BOARD COMRADE LOUIS ALAN COMRADE PHILIP TANGHEER COMRADE EARL BROWDER
STOP HOWARD FAST AUTHOR CITIZEN TON/PAUL HAS WRITTEN SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION
FOR OCCASION STOP PURPOSE OF RALLY TO FURTHER UNITY FOR VICTORY STOP AMERICAN
PEOPLE WOULD RAPIDLY WELCOME MESSAGE TO BE READ AT MEETING FROM YOU AS HERO OF
REICHSTAG FIRE TRIAL AND FOREMOST CHAMPION WORLD ANNIVERSARY AGAINST FASCISM.

It is desired that the above information be incorporated in the next
report submitted by your office in the above captioned case. Sufficient copies
of this letter are being transmitted for inclusion in the files on Robeson and
Myers.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/20/80 BY SP-5 RSC/ELM

Tolson _____
E. A. Tamm _____
Clegg _____
 Coffey _____
 Glavin _____
 Ladd _____
 Nichols _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Acers _____
 Carson _____
 Harbo _____
 Hendon _____
 Mumford _____
 Starke _____
 Quinn Tamm _____
 Nease _____
 Gandy _____

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899 SEP 28 1973

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 10

★ MAR 9 - 1944 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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INDEXED

100-12304-18
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

NY FILE NO. 100-56680

ep

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 3/15/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/26; 3/6, 7/44	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, aka. Mrs. Paul Leo Robeson, Essie Robeson			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject was graduated with B.S. degree from Columbia University June 2, 1920. Original application to Columbia was made on September 18, 1913. University records indicate Mrs. ROBESON attended high school in New York City, Columbia, Ohio, Urbana and Chicago, Illinois. She also attended Illinois State University. Mrs. ROBESON attempted unsuccessfully in 1918 to enter Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons. She corresponded with Columbia University from Moscow, Russia in 1937. From April 20, 1917 to September 10, 1920 she was employed as a research worker, Presbyterian Hospital, New York City. Marriage records for the Borough of Manhattan, NYC, were checked with negative results. Subject not believed to be maintaining New York City residence at present time. Subject's name does appear on mailing list of New York Conference of Inalienable Rights.

- HUC -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** at New Haven, Connecticut, December 18, 1943, and February 10, 1944. b7c

DETAILS:

The records of Columbia University, New York City, indicate that Mrs. ROBESON made application for admission to Columbia on September 18, 1913, under the name of **ESLANDA CARDOZO GOODE** and in this application stated she was born in Washington, D.C. in 1895. Her address at this time was 529 Lenox Avenue, New York City and she listed as the person to notify in case of emergency Mrs. E.C. GOODE at this same address. She indicated she had attended the following high schools:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>E.E. Conroy</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-12304-19
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 4 - New Haven (1-MID, Boston) 2 - Springfield 2 - New York	ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE 38 MAR 20 1944 CLASS. & EXT. BY SR 5 RSG/AM REASON-FCIM II DATE OF REVIEW 11/28/90

APR 1 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Wadleigh High School, New York City.
East and North High School, Columbia, Ohio.
Lucy Flower Technical High School, Chicago, Ill.
Urbana High School, Urbana, Illinois.

She did not graduate from high school but was accepted at college on condition. This application also indicates that for an indefinite period Mrs. ROBESON did attend Illinois State University.

The major subjects taken while at Columbia by the subject were foods and cockery.

Also in the file on Mrs. ROBESON at Columbia University is a letter from the Hartford Seminary Foundation located at Hartford, Conn. under date November 19, 1943 asking for a transcript of Mrs. ROBESON's record at Columbia. This record also indicated that subject graduated from Columbia University June 2, 1920 and received a B.S. degree.

On January 8, 1943 subject wrote a letter to University stating in substance as follows:

"I am applying for admission to the Yale Graduate School and need a transcript of my record."

On March 30, 1937 a letter was addressed to the subject by Columbia at the National Hotel in Moscow, USSR. This letter concerned the kindergarden Teachers course at Columbia and went on to state "if the friends about whom you inquired are Russian we are also enclosing material concerning the non-quota immigrant student visa". This letter was written by Columbia University in answer to letter received from subject dated March 25, 1937 in which Mrs. ROBESON advised she had four young friends in Russia who were interested in taking this kindergarden course.

The only other information in the file indicates an attempt by the subject to enter the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University which attempt was unsuccessful because subject had a language and science deficiency.

The Presbyterian Hospital records at 628 West 168th Street, New York City reflected that subject was employed there as a research worker in the surgical and pathological laboratory from April 20, 1917 to September 10, 1920. She was given a very good rating and the records indicate she left her employment here to study medicine. At this time she stated her address was 7 West 131 Street and gave her birth place as Washington, D.C., her age as 21 years and described her marital status as single. She listed her nearest relative as Mrs. E.C. GOODE same address.

The marriage records for the Borough of Manhattan, New York were checked by Special Employee [REDACTED] and were negative for information concerning subject's marriage to PAUL ROBESON.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - 2 -

b7c
87

NY 100-56690

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] advised that subject's name did appear on mailing list of the New York Conference of Inalienable Rights. b7D

Discreet inquiry at 598 Edgecomb Avenue and of the New York telephone directories and address directories does not reflect that subject presently maintains a residence at this address. Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised that subject's husband owns or has a long time lease on an apartment at this address but that he is not presently residing there. b1

-REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE SPRINGFIELD FIELD DIVISION:

AT CHAMPAIGN, ILL.:

Will check the records at the University of Illinois for information concerning subject's attendance at this university sometime prior to 1913.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
INFORMANTS

Agent [REDACTED] mentioned in report of Special Agent [REDACTED] at New York City dated March 16, 1944 is
New York File: 100-12084.

b7D
b7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
INFORMANTS
- 5 -

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Mumford	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____
Files	_____

FCZ:AJM
100-25857

March 10, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and three copies of
a two page log setting forth the results of a conference between [redacted]
and [redacted] which took place on [redacted] according to
Confidential Informant [redacted] b1

It is believed that PAUL, MAX, EARL and ROY mentioned in the
log may be identified as PAUL ROBESON, DR. MAX YERGAN, EARL BROWDER and
ROY HUDSON.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy
E. E. CONROY, SAC

Encls. (4)

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 YEA

MAY 14 1977

cc. NY 100-26603
NY 100-26011



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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) [redacted]
DATE [redacted]

100-12304-20

JMG:t

INCOMING

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FROM: [REDACTED]
TO: [REDACTED]

Helle [REDACTED] this is [REDACTED] you know that there is taking place in New York on April 16th a big birthday affair for PAUL, don't you?
No, I do not.

You don't know that?
No.

Well now isn't that terrible. Something is being prepared under the auspices of the Council on African Affairs. They have already rented the Armory because the Garden is not available, the Armory at 34th Street and Park Avenue, and they are already entering to the process of publicity and arrangements about entertainment, and so the thing has been going now for some two weeks. Now you know, remember that some long time ago I told you that we ought to do something like that?
Yeah yeah.

Well I mentioned it to MAX and, EARL knows about the, so its really being done. But my point is this, that I think there ought to be some discussion of this thing between you and ROY and MAX, and possibly myself, for a number of reasons. First, a thing like that can't be successful without the support of, the active participation of all the forces whom we influence.
OK.

And secondly I think that you people should know and should, because they need your help.
OK, swell, well we're certainly going to cooperate to make that a success.

Yeah I know. Now look [REDACTED] there is a meeting her at MAX'S office Wednesday about 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon where we're going to take up one or two other things, I don't know how possible it is for you and ROY to come.
Tomorrow at 3:00?

Yeah, I think you ought to come.
Well will that be first?

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REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/20/90

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Yeah, we can make it first, yeah we'll make it first, so that you and ROY can get right away.
OK.

All right?
Yeah.

OK, bye bye.
Hello. We have a meeting at 11:00, do we not?

We have a what?
Do we not have a meeting at 11:00?

Yeah, I'm going now, I'm leaving.
Oh you're leaving? I thought maybe you'd forgotten about it.

No, I've got a half an hour to get there. Yeah, are you going to be there?
Yeah.

Swell. OK.

- END -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 21, 1944

EHW:PMC
100-69266

100-12304-20

SAC, New York

RE: COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of March 10, 1944, entitled "Paul Robeson, Internal Security - C." It is noted that from the information supplied therein the subject organization will possibly sponsor a celebration in honor of Robeson's birthday April 16, 1944. It is desired that you follow this matter and if actual arrangements are made for such a celebration, it be appropriately covered by your Office.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 9

★ MAR 22 1944 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 11/20/80 BY SP5 RSG/CUM

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13 APR 4 - 1944

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

FILE NO. **100-8032**

LH

REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN, CONN.	DATE WHEN MADE 4-6-44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3-31-44	REPORT MADE BY <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin-top: 5px;"></div>
TITLE ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, a.k.a. Mrs. Paul Leo Robeson, Essie Robeson			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject spoke on problem of discrimination against Negroes at Hartford YWCA on 3/15/44. Informants advise no known Communist activity on part of subject.

- 0 -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated 2/10/44 at New Haven.

DETAILS:

On March 15, 1944 subject, Mrs. PAUL ROBESON, gave a talk at the YWCA, Hartford, Connecticut, during which she stated:-

"We are on the move. This is not a threat but a statement of fact." She was referring to the problem of discrimination against the Negroes. Continuing she stated:- "I think this subject is important and urgent, but you will have to solve it because you are the majority. It will be wise to do something now to consider the question of minorities. We are very mad about it and we have made up our minds people are not going to change toward us unless we make them change."

Informants [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were contacted for information regarding any Communist activity on the part of subject or for any knowledge of possible membership in the Communist Party. The result of the inquiries were negative. In view of this reported inactivity in Communist circles or affairs in Connecticut, this investigation is being closed.

COPIES DESTROYED 5-1-58 R-18

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Rogert E. Gleason</i> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE 990 </div>	<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES </div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em; margin-bottom: 10px;"> 100-12304-21 </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> INDEXED & FILED </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> COPIES OF THIS REPORT </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> 5 - Bureau 1 - SID, Boston 1 - SID, Hartford 3 - New Haven </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> COPIES IN FILE </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> CONFIDENTIAL </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE </div>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> CLASS. & EXT. BY <i>SP5-RSG/ell</i> REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW <i>11/20/90</i> </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> 11/20/80 11/20/90 </div> </div>	

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

New Haven, Connecticut

FILE NO. **100-6742**

REPORT MADE AT Springfield, Illinois	DATE WHEN MADE 4-7-44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3-23-44	REPORT MADE BY <div style="background-color: black; height: 1.2em; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, aka Mrs. Paul Lee Robeson, Essie Robeson			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject attended the University of Illinois from September, 1912, to June, 1916. Birthdate reflected as 12-15-95, and birthplace reflected as Washington, D. C.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- R U C -</p> <p>References: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] New York City, New York, dated 3-16-44. b7C</p> <p>Details: [REDACTED] University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, advised that the records of that institution reflect that the subject attended the University of Illinois from September, 1912, to June, 1916, and received a degree of Liberal Arts and Sciences from the University of Illinois on June 20, 1914. The records further indicated that the subject was born December 15, 1895, at Washington, D. C. b7C/b7D</p>			
<p>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 11/20/80 BY SP-5 RSG/clm</p>			
<p>REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Fred Hallford</i> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> COPIES OF THIS REPORT 6 Bureau 4 New Haven 3 Springfield 1 <i>EN</i> COPY IN FILE </div>		<p>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</p> <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; margin: 10px 0;">100-12304-22</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 10px 0;">31 APR 10 1944</div> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"> RECORDED EX-41 </div>	

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 8-18

SAC, New York City

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 19, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

PAUL ROBESON;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Under date of November 28, 1942, Confidential Informant [REDACTED] of the Indianapolis Field Office furnished that Office with a report covering a conversation he had with [REDACTED] at that time. [REDACTED] told the informant he is himself an active Communist Party member [REDACTED] and that Paul Robeson was a Communist Party member and that he had joined the Party after a professional tour in England. On this tour Robeson met a man by the name of Harry Pollet (phonetic), who was believed to have converted Robeson to the Party. [REDACTED] further claimed that upon Robeson's return to the United States he donated his entire earnings from this trip in the amount of \$300,000.00 to the Communist Party. [REDACTED] also told this informant that Robeson and Mother Hloor had later spent three months together in England and that he [REDACTED] had used Robeson with great success at the time he had been the [REDACTED]

The informant referred to above is a paid informant who is considered reliable by the Indianapolis Field Office.

It is desired that the foregoing information be incorporated in the next investigative report submitted by your Office.

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&
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100-12304-23
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 21 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 6

APR 19 1944 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/20/90

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XXXXXX
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Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

To protect material currently and properly classified.

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
Bureau file 100-12304-24 (pages 1+2)

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FBI/DOJ 98

HR:ZEN

June 10, 1944

100-12301 NOT RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge
New Haven, Connecticut

RE: SECURITY MATTER

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that a security index card has been prepared at the Bureau, captioned as follows:

ROBESON, ELEANOR GOODE

NATIVE BORN

COMMUNIST

with aliases

Mrs. Paul Leroy Robeson
Essie Robeson

"The Beeches"
Thompsonville, Conn. (Res.)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11/20/80 BY SP-5 RJG/clm

DECLASSIFIED BY

6080 *hko*
MAY 14 1977

The above caption should be checked immediately for accuracy against the information contained in your files, and the Bureau should be informed of any discrepancies. You will prepare without delay a 5" x 8" white card captioned as above and reflecting your investigative case file number for filing in your Confidential Security Index Card File. In the event the above caption is not correct, the card you prepare should be correctly captioned, and the Bureau should be informed of the correct caption.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

The caption of the card prepared and filed in your Office must be kept current at all times and the Bureau immediately advised of any changes made therein in that connection.

JUN 10 1944 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

New York, New York

MEMO
100-26011

November 29, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: [REDACTED]
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

b7C

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are two copies of a seven page log reflecting a conference which took place between [REDACTED] and PAUL J. [REDACTED]. This conference took place on November 23, 1944, according to Confidential Informant [REDACTED].
b2

It is believed that some of the individuals referred to in the above log may be identified as follows:

ALVINE	- ALFRED FORTER, Education Director of the Council on African Affairs.
BORER	- ROBERT BORER of the law firm of BORER, RICH and ROCKWELL, 10 East 40th Street, New York City.
DEAN	- DEAN DEAN, Secretary to HENRY WISDOM.
LOVINE	- LOVINE WISDOM of San Francisco, California.
VENNER	- JACK VENNER who plays the role of LACQ in OTHELLO.

[REDACTED]

b1

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/122
MAY 14 1977

Very truly yours,

E. A. CUNY
SIC
OFFICIAL

Encs. 2
cc NY file 100-47315
" " 100-25057
" " 100-12377
" " 100-3612

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SD DEC 27 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 RJB/MLM
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/20/90

100-12304-25
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 6 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

100

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE

JAN 7

11/23/84
1:35 PM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FROM: [REDACTED]
TO: PAUL ROBERTSON

[REDACTED] Hello PAUL.
P: ... (ind.)

[REDACTED] OK. PAUL I couldn't get through last night and
P: That was my fault, I ... (ind.)

[REDACTED] Oh. How you feeling?
P: Fine, I feel much better.

[REDACTED] Didn't you have a double billing today?
P: No no, tomorrow.

[REDACTED] Oh oh.
P: But I feel very well.

[REDACTED] Oh that's fine. We were thinking that you'd very likely have
P: a minico but its tomorrow, the holiday, you have it.
That's right, we have it tomorrow.

[REDACTED] Yeah. PAUL, there were a few things I wanted to take up.
P: First, Milwaukee is all clear now isn't it?
Yeah.

[REDACTED] We've notified them today that if they've had the idea that
you were taking on something there that they're mistaken.
As a matter of fact, I think that was a bit of what they
thought was smart business, giving us the impression that
you'd agreed so that we would more or less acquiesce in it
you see, but all of us felt here that these things of that
nature are no longer necessary because everybody knows your
attitude, and knows what you stand for, and its become very
largely an organizational matter with them.
P: Yeah.

[REDACTED] I'm going to see, I wanted to tell you about the trip out to
the Coast. I'm going to see BOBBY. With regard to San
Francisco, there'll be no difficulty whatever in our making the
first night benefit. With regard to Los Angeles you view
is that we should just let that go through in the regular way.
P: Yeah ... (ind.)

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DATE 11-20-80 BY SP5 RJG/CLM

ENCLOSURE

100-12304-25
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Yeah. And that will certainly be followed, but we can do that, as a matter of fact everything is all set there for doing there what was done here and in Detroit.

P: Well I say, still might be able to use one of the performances

But the opening should be a normal thing.

P: Yeah I think so.

And take one of the performances a little later.

P: Yeah.

With regard to Seattle where you're due on Christmas.

P: Christmas.

Christmas. I was wondering if inasmuch as we never had a meeting in Seattle if we could try to arrange something there. I would undertake it, you'll be there on a Sunday.

P: Well now the Sunday before is a little dangerous, how long are we there, two weeks?

You're there January, yeah to January 6th, December 25th to January 6.

P: Does that mean two weeks?

Yeah its two weeks.

P: Well it ought to be the Sunday after because I don't know where I'll be the Sunday before.

Yeah, it will be the Sunday that falls in the middle.

P: That's right.

We would do that however only on condition that I would go out or DIANE might go out beforehand, or that we'd get somebody up from San Francisco to really make a first-class thing of it, I won't undertake it under any other circumstances. Now with regard to San Francisco again, you're there six weeks.

P: Six weeks.

Yeah. When I got there I found the usual thing, that there were a dozen groups that were clamoring

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

P: San Francisco is definitely a place where I can start nothing because I could be so tired out in the six weeks that I'd never finish a tour.

Absolutely.

P: So I can't start anything there, because if I do one I'll have to do a billion, other than, very informal get-togethers but no public meetings, no nothing unless they're something to do specifically with the Council or something.

Yeah.

P: I just can't start it because I find that's the difficulty, once you do one thing then everybody expects you to do it, and if I'm there for six weeks it will be impossible.

PAUL, it's that very point that I had in mind.

P: I might be there, and there might be something that we could have the opening night, or maybe the last week I'm there something could be fit in but I certainly won't start anything in the first week because I'd never finish the place.

No. I talked with our best friends out there and the thing that took shape, and it was at my insistence, was a big thing that would involve, in which you would have the important part but a short part, to which they'd have to bring people, some friends from Los Angeles perhaps, a few, the Mayor would have to sponsor it, it would be an overall inclusive thing. Now fortunately our friends out there agree fully, there's a slight difference because some have the idea that it should be primarily for political purposes while others feel that it should do both, it should serve the highest political and ...(interr.)

P: ... whole situation here, it should do both, certainly I should think

Certainly, and make some money also. It could easily do both, and I have, I stood for the latter, however it's got to be ironed out, and I'll be in touch with BILL and HARRY and others in ironing out that so that you'll be free from all details except that one big thing. There's one reservation I had which I thought you would want to consider in some sort of personal way. LOUISE out there has been very unselfish in disregarding the needs of the Russian-American Institute,

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

in disregarding the needs to the extent that they've had nothing and she's thrown herself and given a lot of money to other things. I felt that that could be an exception in the form of a small luncheon.

P: Well anything that I say is private ...(interr.) once I get there that could be done, that could be done. ...(ind.) the house of somebody.

Yeah. And PAUL, is it correct that, for instance the Joint-Anti-Fascist Committee and groups of that sort could call on ~~MEMBER~~ and make use of other members of the cast?

P: Surely.

I took the liberty of suggesting that.

P: Surely, they will be glad to.

And that's what I think they are doing, there's just one final thing. Now don't let this bother you at all if its going to make for any inconvenience. My being away so long and the absence too of the Treasurer in a way has sort of upset our financial arrangements. I think I can take care of this elsewhere but I'm not absolutely sure. If I cannot I'm wondering if, I don't want any lagging in payments of salaries and so forth to the other members of the staff, I'm wondering if you could arrange, if I have to ask you, now I'm not asking it yet because I think I can do it elsewhere, if you could arrange for about 750 or \$1,000.

P: Sure MAY, sure.

OK.

P: I'll do that anyhow ...(ind.) so I'll take care of that, I'll take care of that next week, I'll telegraph New York, sure, BOB will have that ...(ind.)

All right. It will relieve me of what may be an immediate embarrassment, simply because I've had to be away so long you see, and we've got a lot of projects on, I've got two extra people helping ALFRED now and we're printing, publishing a lot of things.

P: No I say definitely we must ...(ind.) because we're coming right into a period when its most important that we are functioning at full speed.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Yeah, and I want to go ahead in just that way.
P: Yes, certainly I'll do that.

OK PAUL, will you get in touch with BOBBY?
P: I'll get in touch with BOBBY, I'll send a telegram tomorrow.

OK. Now he will be concerned of course to do this in such a way as to obviate any great loss in tax and so forth, I suppose he will have to
P: Well he can figure it out some way, can do it through another fund or something, he can do it.

OK, I think that takes care of all of the points I want to take up. PAUL is there anything that you want looked after?
P: No, I would, I'll be, you've got my tour, have you got my hotels?

No we haven't got the hotels. I, could ANDY you think
P: I'll have ANDY send them a telegram.

Have ANDY do that will you?
P: ... (ind.) in touch with you its all right, I mean, no I'm all right, I feel fine and it happens that, well I just had to do one thing here and I had a good rest and I really feel fine.

That's in Cincinnati.
P: And I was, it was the last three or four weeks since Detroit, Cleveland, the ROOSEVELT thing.

They worked you to death.
P: They just murdered me the end, a couple of weeks ago.

I know it, and its the sort of thing that every other town, for instance today we must have had four telegrams from Minneapolis, you were there

P: ... I refuse to do it, if I get there and they have some kind of a thing that I can drop in on OK, but I just can't do those things there. I'll be there for just a week and you just write everybody that I can't do it, its impossible.

That's just what we're doing.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

P: I feel now that I was terrifically strained in the, terrific strain during the weeks there you know before the election and in Detroit I must have been somewhere every five minutes.

[REDACTED] I know you were, we got reports ...(interr.)

P: ... since then and I just caught up the last couple, like today I didn't go out at all and I stayed in the hotel all day and I feel fine, the performance went beautifully and, they must understand at this particular time that the performance is of the essence now especially.

[REDACTED] Of course everybody here

P: And that its just too exhausting and any little thing I do is

[REDACTED] It takes that much out of you.

P: ... noon and go somewhere or 4:00 o'clock ...(interr.)

[REDACTED] One thing leads to another, one thing leads to another, everybody here says

P: ... do one thing, if you have four or five telegrams to do one thing why can't you do all of them, you know.

[REDACTED] That's it, everybody here recognizes that you're doing the, you're rendering the highest possible service ...(interr.)

P: ... if I feel like going one or two places then I can but it can't be. The Urban League (?) had some kind of meeting there and the Governor wrote me and

[REDACTED] That's in Milwaukee?

P: The Mayor and every other body in Minneapolis.

[REDACTED] Yeah. No you can't do it and

P: Of course it was worth it, you know, for the elections ...(ind.)

[REDACTED] Yeah. Well

P: Oh, you keep in touch with me and I'm all right.

[REDACTED] I'm hoping that I can get down to see PAULY in Philadelphia on Saturday.

P: Oh yeah, try to do that.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] Gosh, the
P: He's doing swell.

[REDACTED] Oh the boy's going great guns.
P: Really fine.

[REDACTED] FRITZ is up on furlough on
P: Oh fine, how's he?

[REDACTED] He's fine.
P: Good.

[REDACTED] He's got
P: Real flyer by now huh?

[REDACTED] Oh yeah. He's going back for three more months of bombing
training. He's been flying out over the Atlantic and the
Gulf, but he's got three more months of special bombing
training and then I think he'll be through. You going to get
some turkey tomorrow?
P: Oh yeah I'll get turkey. OK [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Right.
P: Love to everybody.

[REDACTED] Right.
P: My best to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] All right PAUL.
P: All right [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Goodbye.
P: Goodbye.

- END -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OUTGOING
JAG:JTB

November 23, 1944
1:50 AM

FROM: [REDACTED]
TO: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Hello?

[REDACTED] Hello [REDACTED] I'm sure I got you up.

[REDACTED] No you didn't.

[REDACTED] I called you a little while ago. Well, it must have been an hour and a half ago.

[REDACTED] Uh huh.

[REDACTED] I just talked with PAUL.

[REDACTED] Yes.

[REDACTED] Yeah. I had a long talk with him.

[REDACTED] How is he?

[REDACTED] He's in good shape. He didn't have the matinee today, it's tomorrow, but he said he stayed in the hotel all day today and didn't go out until the play tonight and he feels fine.

[REDACTED] Oh good.

[REDACTED] I just want you to know that he's ever so glad that we did what we did with regard to Milwaukee.

[REDACTED] Yes.

[REDACTED] Yeah. He had any number of letters from them and - but answered not a single one - certainly not no telegrams and he really did not want to do anything there. I made him see that our business is to say no to practically everything.

[REDACTED] Uh huh.

[REDACTED] Even with regard to San Francisco.

[REDACTED] Yes.

[REDACTED] Even though he's going to be there six weeks.

[REDACTED] Uh huh.

[REDACTED] His principle is that if he does one thing, it just sort of obliterates him to do a hundred other things.

[REDACTED] Yeah, that's right.

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ENCLOSURE

11/20/80

100-12304-2

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And he will be in agreement only with one big inclusive thing and that's the sort of thing that I discussed there with him, and PAUL agrees with me that a few of our friends out there ought to see that used primarily for political purposes.

Yeah.

PAUL says it can be used for that and it must make some money also.

Uh huh.

It's only in that way that it makes sense.

That's right.

He is in perfect agreement with anything that we might contemplate for Seattle.

Uh huh.

As a matter of fact, he urges it because nothing has been done there.

Yeah, he did the last time.

Yeah.

When you were out there.

Yeah, yeah, but it should be that Sunday after Christmas, you see.

Yeah.

And I think we ought to get on to that right away. One thing, one of my main reasons for calling you, he wanted to know if you had a telegram today from some friend of his in Washington.

No.

Somebody in Washington was to wire or write about some matter that PAUL had wired down there about. You didn't get it?

No.

I told him that I didn't think you did get it.

No.

OK. I told him if you did get it, I'd ask you to get him tomorrow.

Uh huh.

But if it hasn't come yet, he says it will not come.

Oh.

But if it had come, he wanted me to call him back tonight.

No, he hasn't had any.

All right. Well be s nt his best and said that he'd get plenty turkey tomorrow.

Oh good.
All right.

All right?
Eight.

Very good.
I'll get you tomorrow.

Very good. Right eh.
Good-by.

Good-by.

-END-

XXXXXX
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.



Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1) with no segregable material available for release to you.



Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.



Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

Above

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

To protect information currently classified pursuant to Executive Order No. 12065,



For your information: _____



The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

Bureau file 100-12304-26

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DATE 11-24-80 BY SP5 RIG/ldm

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, 7, New York

JJS:CC
100-25857

Director, FBI

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE

December 28, 1944

RE: PAUL ROBESON;
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

On December 4, 1944, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that MAX YERGAN, Executive Director of the COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS conferred with ROBERT ROCKMORE, Attorney for PAUL ROBESON, concerning contributions made to the COUNCIL by ROBESON.

YERGAN was advised by ROCKMORE, according to Informant, that ROBESON contributed in 1941, \$1,000 to the COUNCIL. In addition to this contribution, ROCKMORE advised YERGAN that ROBESON had contributed in 1941, \$500 to the NEGRO YOUTH CONGRESS indirectly through a Mrs. BOURD (phonetic).

ROCKMORE further advised YERGAN that these two contributions were taken by ROBESON as a deduction on his 1941 Income Tax Return. The deduction was allowed by the New York Office of the Collector of Internal Revenue, but ROCKMORE advised YERGAN that he had been informed confidentially that the deduction was not going to be allowed in Washington, and that in all probability it would cost PAUL ROBESON a \$1,000 in taxes and penalties.

ROCKMORE said he had been advised unofficially of the fact that the deduction would not be allowed. He further advised YERGAN that he wanted to fight the decision which would be handed down by the Collector of Internal Revenue at Washington, but that he did not desire to fight this decision if it would embarrass the COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

YERGAN advised ROCKMORE that he did not believe that ROBESON would be entitled to a deduction for the contribution made to the NEGRO YOUTH CONGRESS inasmuch as it was not a religious nor educational organization. YERGAN further advised ROCKMORE that the COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS had a letter from the Collector of Internal Revenue which stated that the income of the COUNCIL was exempt from taxation.

RECEIVED

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MAY 24 1977

RECORDED

INDEXED JAN 1 1945

EX - 29

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CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 RIG/ldm
REASON FOR EXT. 1.2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11-20-80

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NY 100-25857

December 28, 1944

~~Secret~~ letter to Director
RE: PAUL ROBESON

YERGAN further advised that the letter had been construed by the Accountants for the COUNCIL that contributions for the COUNCIL were also deductible, but that the matter was now pending and they were expecting an opinion from the lawyers for the COUNCIL. YERGAN went on to advise ROCKMORE that many people had made contributions to the COUNCIL and were deducting these contributions on their Income Tax returns.

ROCKMORE stated that while deductions were not allowable for contributions to organizations engaged for political or propaganda work, that he would contest the decision in an effort to help the cause of the COUNCIL. He further stated that he was fearful that the deduction was disallowed because the people in Washington had their own dossier on the organization.

YERGAN promised ROCKMORE he would send him a copy of the letter which the COUNCIL had received from the Revenue Department in order that he could use it as a basis for his contest in the matter.

On the same date, the Informant advised that MAX YERGAN conferred with his Secretary, DIANNE SOMMERS and requested her to send a copy of the letter which he had discussed with ROCKMORE. DIANNE advised YERGAN that she had not heard from the lawyer employed by the COUNCIL and that the copy of the letter was in his possession. She said that she would obtain the copy and forward it to ROCKMORE immediately.

The foregoing information is being forwarded to the Bureau and it is suggested that the information be transmitted to the Office of the Collector of Internal Revenue in connection with the PAUL ROBESON matter and also in connection with the situation which now exists with respect to the deductions allowed for contributions to the COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

The Bureau is also requested to forward to the New York Field Division any information which may be in the possession of the Bureau concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy
E. E. CONROY
SAC

cc - NY files 100-26011
100-19377

113

Paul Robeson

This biographical sketch of Paul Robeson appeared in the April issue of the New York World, celebrating the 46th anniversary of this great peoples' artist who appears this week in Vancouver.



By NAY LOW

THE scene is universal. Whether in Prague or London, Vienna or Moscow, New York or Madrid, Dublin or Oslo—it is the same. The great throng of people are enthralled by a man who captivates them, inspiring them with a magical charm and a loftiness of spirit that defies description.

The man is Paul Robeson, as his biographer, Lattin, is pointing his finger. Now in his 46th birthday, he is a symbol of human freedom as he has ever trod the earth.

Who is this man, Robeson, whose 46th birthday we so joyously celebrate today?

Where does his greatness spring from? What were the elements which brought into being this genius who has embraced the entire world?

Let us pick up the thread of the story by going back some eight decades.

In the historic year of 1860, Abraham Lincoln, has been elected President of the United States.

A 44-year-old slave, whose father had been brought from Africa in chains, has just escaped from a plantation in Martin County, North Carolina. He has taken upon himself the name of his former master, William Drew Robeson, and has become the first

of the Negro people in the North and in 1897 helped found the "Free Africa Society" which was the first benevolent society organized by Negroes in America. Cyrus Bustill, who traced his ancestry directly to a powerful Indian tribe, was a man of great intellect and leadership ability and is mentioned by name in the Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin. From this man came the generations of highly educated school teachers and scholars, one of whom was a great-granddaughter named Maria Louisa Bustill who was born in Philadelphia on Nov. 8, 1858.

This woman is the mother of Paul Robeson.

In the year 1897, William Drew Robeson married Maria Louisa Bustill in Philadelphia.

Robeson bore her husband eight children, the last of which was the boy who

or slipping his thigh. Now he is pointing his finger at you, his face serious, his brow drawn together, making an important point.

Robeson's Harvardian head is an artist's dream and has fascinated such students as D. W. Griffith and England's Jacob Epstein.

The Othello heard make his face even more striking and as you watch him you wonder what Shakespeare would have thought of his Othello come to life.

When you agree that the fact that his 46-year-old son Paul has broken the eight-decade record for the high jump with a leap of 6 feet 3 inches, he breaks all into a happy gas, shouting, "Yes, yes, look at you! And that's not all, my boy, the boy

PAUL ROBESON

able rise to the North with the aid of the Underground Railroad. After long bitter weeks of travel by night, he arrives in Pennsylvania where he sets to work on a farm, a free man. In subsequent years he returns to his former plantation three times, on each occasion defying immediate death to bring to his deeply beloved mother money which he has earned as a free man. Each time he again escapes via the Underground Railroad.

The years pass swiftly and his on-slave enticement, and graduation from Lincoln University near Philadelphia. Now the boy has grown into a powerfully built man with an awe-inspiring voice and a dream of freedom for all his people. Towards the end of the 19th century he becomes the minister of the Witherspoon Presbyterian Church which still stands today in Princeton, New Jersey. This man is the father of Paul Robeson.

THE genealogy of Paul Robeson does not end here. On the maternal side it winds through almost all of American history. But let us pick up the thread once again.

General George Washington's army is huddled around small campfires in the unrelenting cold. Men are hungry and weary, yearning desperately for home. But then, from out of the darkness, comes a cheerful, friendly voice. "Come up boys, come and get it." They gather round a Negro soldier who hands them hot bread, fighting with each other, eradicating words of hope and cheer to the "Winter Soldiers."

This man, Cyrus Bustill, was born a slave in New Jersey but had been allowed to purchase

April 9, 1860 when he was 15 and her husband 25 years of age. The child was a boy and was named Paul Bustill Robeson. This then, is how Paul Robeson came to be.

PAUL ROBESON is a tremendously busy man, engaged in innumerable activities besides playing the lead in "Othello," which has already broken every record for Shakespearean plays in our country. So when you finally catch him long enough for an interview you hang on his every word, his every gesture.

The interview was originally scheduled to last only 15 minutes or so—but it went into several hours as his duties at the Council for African Affairs at 22 W. 38th St.

On the stage he is impressive enough, but close up he presents a slight you are sure to remember all your life. He stands 6 feet 8 inches tall, carrying 245 pounds of bone and muscle on the tremendous frame. He alternately pines and stands as he talks, warms up slowly as he tells of his life. His parents, his art, his beloved son, Paul.

His speaking voice is even more wondrous than his slithering voice pounding the quality of an organ with noise or his monotony. It leaves its timbre equally of his voice as well as slow ones and when he enters and laughs the sound is electric, becomes animated and electric. That famous Robeson smile, twice as infectious as a smile.

At the time of his famous character he is rubbing his chin or stroking his high forehead

tells of Paul's extraordinary exploits.

Robeson is easily satisfied about himself. He knows his strength and talent and is fully aware of his social obligations, his responsibility to his people. He is extremely devoted and his modesty stands out in very being. If a man cannot afford attention, indeed, there are times when his humility is so great he becomes embarrassingly bashful.

Entering the 4th year of the health of his creative power and his magnificent health, although his physician attempts to limit his strenuous activities to a minimum which is maximum for most men.

How the confidence Paul Robeson has in himself! It is impossible to do so simply because one cannot EXPLAIN it. He is a man who is not afraid to be a man and generally accepts it. But it can and should be used for all men to use.

Paul and Robeson was a well-adjusted, happy, romantic who immediately became the favorite of the family as well as his father's confidante. He moved along the streets of the park, while his father preached the gospel of brotherhood.

The 19th century was a time of great change and when he entered and laughs the sound is electric, becomes animated and electric. That famous Robeson smile, twice as infectious as a smile.

Paul Robeson is a man of extraordinary exploits.

Robeson is easily satisfied about himself. He knows his strength and talent and is fully aware of his social obligations, his responsibility to his people. He is extremely devoted and his modesty stands out in very being. If a man cannot afford attention, indeed, there are times when his humility is so great he becomes embarrassingly bashful.

Entering the 4th year of the health of his creative power and his magnificent health, although his physician attempts to limit his strenuous activities to a minimum which is maximum for most men.

How the confidence Paul Robeson has in himself! It is impossible to do so simply because one cannot EXPLAIN it. He is a man who is not afraid to be a man and generally accepts it. But it can and should be used for all men to use.

Paul and Robeson was a well-adjusted, happy, romantic who immediately became the favorite of the family as well as his father's confidante. He moved along the streets of the park, while his father preached the gospel of brotherhood.

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Editor's Note: This example of the hatred of the ruling class, with its hyung and self-confident exaggeration, is written by a group of British Columbia who are interested in the development of the region. It is printed, however, the current of the Green Gold. (WZ) and is a very good example of the kind of writing that is being done in the region.

New Pamphlets and Books

John W. Earl, Editor

The Heritage of the Communist Party
 Earl, John W. 10c

Peace of Mind: A Practical Guide to the Fight for the World
 Earl, John W. 10c

Supervisory Workers Fight for the World
 Earl, John W. 10c

Plutocracy, Monopoly, Socialism and the Workers
 Earl, John W. 10c

PEOPLES BOOKSTORE

100 WEST BEND STREET
 ST. PAUL, MINN. 55101



THIS is a small part of the new book, "The Heritage of the Communist Party," by John W. Earl. It is a very good example of the kind of writing that is being done in the region. It is a very good example of the kind of writing that is being done in the region.

Re: Robinson Taborian - The author of the book "The Heritage of the Communist Party" is a very good example of the kind of writing that is being done in the region. It is a very good example of the kind of writing that is being done in the region.

Malraux's Novel

After having read the novel, "The Green and the Grey," by Malraux, one can only say that it is a masterpiece of the art of the novel. The author has written a novel that is both a masterpiece of the art of the novel and a masterpiece of the art of the novel. The author has written a novel that is both a masterpiece of the art of the novel and a masterpiece of the art of the novel.

The Green and the Grey, by Malraux, is a novel that is both a masterpiece of the art of the novel and a masterpiece of the art of the novel. The author has written a novel that is both a masterpiece of the art of the novel and a masterpiece of the art of the novel.

The Worker

Magazine
Section

The Story of Paul Robeson

By NAT LOW

THE scene is universal. Whether in Prague or London, Vienna or Moscow, New York or Madrid, Dublin or Oslo—it is the same. The great throng of people sits enthralled by a man who captivates them, inspiring them with a magical charm and a loftiness of spirit that defies description.

The man is Paul Robeson, as towering a symbol of human freedom as has ever trod the earth.

Who is this man, Robeson, whose 45th birthday we so joyously celebrate today.

Where does his greatness spring from? What were the elements which brought into being this genius who has embraced the entire world?

Let us pick up the thread of the story by going back some eight decades.

It is the historic year of 1860. A stout, tall



President of the United States.

A 15-year-old slave, whose father had been brought from Africa in chains, has just escaped from a plantation in Martin County, North Carolina. He has taken upon himself the name of his former master, William Drew Robeson, and now begins the grim, terrible trek to the north with the aid of the Underground Railroad. After long bitter weeks of travel by night, he arrives in Pennsylvania where he sets to work on a farm, a free man. In subsequent years he returns to his former plantation three times, on each occasion defying immediate death, to bring to his deeply beloved mother money which he has earned as a free man. Each time he again escapes via the Underground Railroad.

The years pass swiftly and this ex-slave enters, and graduates from, Lincoln University near Philadelphia. Now the boy has grown into a powerfully-built man with an awe-inspiring voice and a dream of freedom for all his people. Towards the end of the 19th century he becomes the minister of the Witherspoon Presbyterian Church which still stands today in Princeton, New Jersey.

This man is the father of Paul Robeson.

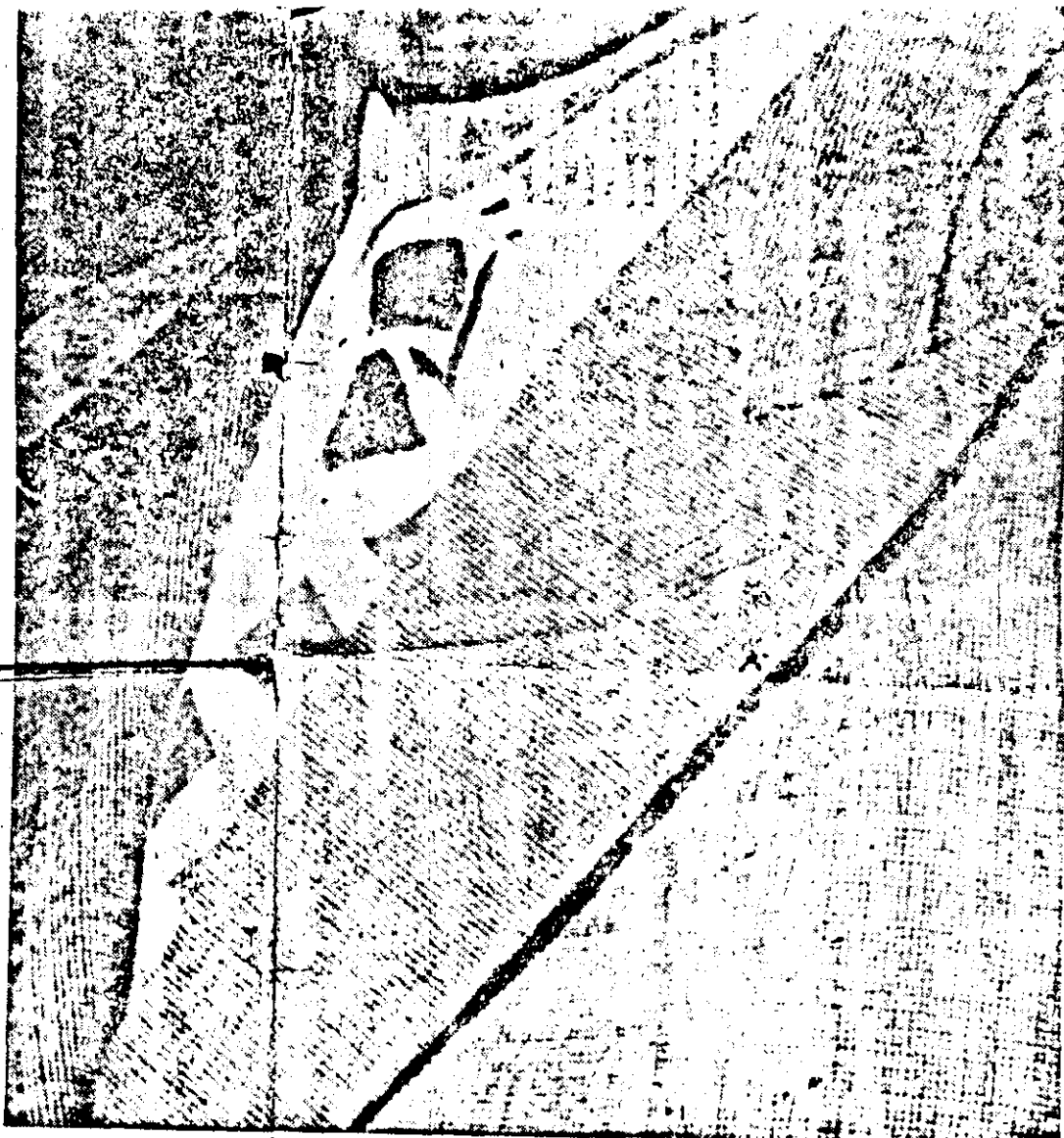
The genesis of Paul Robeson does not end here. It winds through all the annals of American history. . . . But let us pick up the thread once again.

General George Washington's army is huddled around small camp-fires in the unrelenting cold. Men are hungry and weary, yearning desperately for home. But then, from out of the darkness, comes a cheerful, friendly voice: "Come up boys, come and get it." They gather 'round a Negro baker who hands them hot bread, imparting with each slice gracious words of hope and cheer to the "Winter Soldiers."

This man, Cyrus Bustill, was born a slave in New Jersey but had been allowed to purchase his freedom. Later he was taught the trade of

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THE WORKER.



APRIL 16, 1944

The Story of Paul Robeson

(Continued from Page 1)

a baker. He became one of the leaders of the Negro people in the North and in 1887 helped found the "Free Africa Society" which was the first beneficial society organized by Negroes in America. Cyrus Bustill, who traced his ancestry directly to a powerful Indian tribe, was a man of great intellect and leadership ability and is mentioned by name in the autobiography of Benjamin Franklin. Many generations of his family cultivated school teachers and scholars, one of whom was a great-granddaughter named Maria Louisa Bustill who was born in Philadelphia on Nov. 8, 1853.

This woman is the mother of Paul Robeson.

In the year 1878 William Drew Robeson married Maria Louisa Bustill in Philadelphia. Louisa Robeson bore her husband eight children, the last coming in Princeton, N. J., on April 9, 1898 when she was 43 and her husband 66 years of age.

The child was a boy and was named Paul Bustill Robeson. This, then, is how Paul Robeson came to be.

Paul Robeson is a tremendously busy man, engaged in innumerable activities besides playing the lead in "Othello," which has already broken every record for Shakespearean plays in our country. So when you finally catch him long enough for an interview you hang on his every word, his every gesture.

This interview was conducted by

Robeson singing to soldiers of the Spanish Republic at Madrid barracks in 1938.



VICE-PRESIDENT WALLACE (left) and Sidney Hillman share the platform with Mr. Robeson at Chicago's United Nations Day meeting last September.

has gained the greatest and most merited fame since his graduation."

Besides his football play he was center of the basketball team, catcher of the baseball team and headed the shot-put for the track team.

Strangely enough, he never sang on the college glee club for it wasn't until years later that he discovered he possessed a voice which was destined to thrill millions of people on three continents.

Despite his phenomenal success in college, it did not come without harsh and bitter setbacks. At one stage of the game he was ready to call it quits; but his father strengthened his confidence and he returned to school after an attempt to make the varsity football team had resulted in a dislocated shoulder, a broken nose, bruises and welts all over his body.

Paul recalled the situation quickly.

It was sports, though, that most interested Robeson at the time. The gangling boy was now standing well over six feet and weighing close to 200 pounds. He was swift, strong and agile and his high school athletic and scholastic record was such that he received a state scholarship to Rutgers University in 1915. He became the third Negro ever to enter that school.

His first great fame was achieved here. To this very day his feats remain unequalled. He was a 12-letter man, winning 4 R's in football, 3 in baseball, 3 in basketball and 2 in track. In 1918 he became the first Negro ever to be named to Walter Camp's All-America football team, Camp declaring, "There never was a more serviceable end, both on attack and defense, than Robeson, the 200-pound giant of Rutgers."

His feats on the gridiron are still legendary and to this very day I recall with a Spanish-Nor-

Paul recalled the situation quickly.

After he had regained his strength he went out for football practice again and got more of the same. This was about all the 17-year-old freshman could stand. "I saw red," he says today, "and broke right through the line, heading for the first man I saw, who happened to be a sweet kid named Kelly. I lifted him above my head and was about to dash him to pieces on the ground when, through the fog, I heard the voice of my coach, an honest and fair man, crying 'Robey, Robey, stop, stop you're on the varsity' . . . I managed to come to and suddenly realized that I had been accepted, that I was one of the boys, that my test was over and done with.

"Later I became fast friends with Kelly even though I was never able to forget that experience."

Upon graduation from Rutgers, Robeson entered Columbia Law School and it was there that he met and married a Spanish-Nor-

utes to the day of the Council for African Affairs on 23rd St.

On the stage he is impressive enough, but close up he presents a sight you are sure to remember all your life. He stands 6 feet 3 inches tall, carrying 245 pounds of bone and muscle on the tremendous frame. He alternately sits and stands as he talks, warming up slowly as he tells of his life, his parents, his art, his beloved son, Paul.

His speaking voice is even more wonderful than his singing voice, possessing the quality of an organ, with none of its monotony. It keeps its timbre equally on high notes as well as low ones and when he smiles and laughs the room suddenly becomes animated and electric. That famous Robeson smile is twice as infectious in a small room.

As he speaks, his positions change: he is rubbing his chin, or stroking his high forehead or slapping his thigh. Now he is pointing his immense hand at you, his face serious, his brows drawn together, making an important point.

Robeson's literature head is a such sculpture as Jo Davidson and England's Jacob Epstein.

The Othello makes his face even more striking and as you watch him you wonder what Shakespeare would have thought of his Othello came to life.

He speaks rapidly and as he tells of his father his eyes shine and he is obviously deeply moved. When you express amazement at the fact that his 16-year-old son Paul had broken the high school record for the high jump with a leap of 6 feet 3 inches, he breaks out into a happy roar, thundering, "Yeah, yeah, look at me! Amazed, eh? ... And that's not all. ... The boy also does ... and the words pour out as he tells of Paul's extraordinary exploits.

about himself. He knows his strength and talent and is keenly aware of his social obligations, his responsibility to his people. He is extremely modest and his modesty stems from his very being. It is no theatrical affectation. Indeed, there are times when his humility is so great he becomes embarrassingly bashful.

Entering his 47th year he is at the height of his creative powers and is in magnificent health, although his physician attempts vainly to limit his tremendous activity to a minimum, a minimum which is a maximum for most men.

How can one explain Paul Robeson's talents? It is impossible to do so simply because one cannot EXPLAIN genius. Mankind joyfully and gratefully accepts it. But it can and should be recorded, for all men to see.

The child Robeson was a well-adjusted, happy youngster who immediately became the favorite of the family as well as his father's congregation. He romped along the streets of Princeton, his mother, his father, his sister, his wife—his father preached the gospel of human brotherhood.

The Reverend Robeson poured all his great love into this young cat child and there sprang up between father and son a union and common understanding which lasted to the very day of the death of the elder Robeson in 1918. This affinity between them became even greater following the sudden, tragic death of Louise Robeson in 1904—an accident which to this day is fresh in the mind of Paul Robeson and which so accented his consciousness that he has never been able to remember anything prior to that tragedy.

For some years his mother had been an invalid, rapidly going blind. On the fatal morning of Jan. 18, 1904, with her customary

clean room. Unable to see more than a few inches before her, she bent too close to the stove, her apron catching fire. In a few terrible seconds Louise Robeson was a fiery torch, her body enveloped in flames. Her screams brought all the children to the room—including the horror-stricken Paul. But it was too late.

Thus, she passed away, leaving a family of grown children with the exception of Paul, who was only six.

As a growing boy Paul worked on the farm up and around Princeton, and rapidly into a sturdy oak of a man. Under the loving guidance of his father he began the adventure into the world of ideas and thoughts. Public speaking and reading became a ritual in the Robeson household and from his father Paul developed the wonderful diction and delivery which today is unequalled on the stage.

"My father had the greatest speaking voice I have ever heard," Robeson says today. "It was a wonderful voice."

When it was fear he was already preparing me for public speaking. It was he who instilled in me the desire to seek the truth, to search and fight for human equality and freedom. It is to this wonderful man that I owe everything."

It didn't take long for the young Robeson to establish himself as a scholar. With the reassuring hand of his father upon his shoulder he learned to grasp the essence of problems, tackling them with vigor and completely solving them.

His father was a stickler for perfection. One day Paul came home from high school with a report card showing seven A's and one B. "Son, what's that B doing here?" queried his dad.

But busy as he was with athletics—he went all through the year playing one sport after another—Robeson did not neglect his studies. He was captain of the debating team, was elected Phil Beta Kappa, and received among the highest marks ever achieved by a student at the school. He was the idol of the campus and was known far and wide as "Robeson of Rutgers."

Of him, the director of athletics at the University writes: "Paul Robeson is regarded as the greatest living All-American football player. In the opinion of most people, he is of all All-Americans."

who to this very day is a source of great inspiration to him. There followed a brief career as a lawyer but Robeson knew that a Negro member of the bar was severely limited, and so he quit.

The theatre came next and it was a logical choice. Possessing a fine physique, a wonderful speaking voice, tremendous emotional intensity and an unimpelling personality, Robeson joined New York's Providence Players and later became fast friends with such men as Heywood Brown, Eugene O'Neill, Alexander Wool-

(Continued on page 3)



JOSEPH CURRAN, National Maritime Union president, presents Mr. Robeson with a seamen's union membership book at the union's 1941 convention.

PAUL ROBESON

BASS-BARITONE

and

LAWRENCE BROWN

IN A PROGRAM of NEGRO MUSIC

GREENWICH VILLAGE THEATRE

Sunday Evening

APRIL 19th, 1925

ROBESON'S FIRST CONCERT was, on April 19, 1925.
This is the program cover.

The Story of Paul Robeson

(Continued from Page 2)

cott and others. Rapid appearances in "All God's Children Have Wings" and a revival of "Emperor Jones" were smash hits. But after a while the limited supply of vehicles for a Negro actor was used up and Robeson fell upon hard days.

It was then that he discovered he could sing. This came in 1923 when he was 27 years old. True, he had sung for small informal

man, knows Robeson most intimately.

He became the favorite of the British Royal Family. His fame was such that no royal party was considered a success if it did not list Robeson as the guest of honor. He sang innumerable concerts for the Prince of Wales, Winston Churchill, Lord Beaverbrook and others, but it is for one particular concert that he had a special

He was invited to St. James

realized that I had found what I had been seeking all my life. It was a new plant—a new constellation. It filled me with such happiness as I have never before known in my life.

Inspired by what he saw there, Robeson determined to help bring about such complete equality and human happiness everywhere in the world.

And then Spain. The struggle of the Spanish people for a free and decent life moved Robeson to his very core. He left Russia to go to Spain in 1938. Using his great songs, he urged, exhorted, inspired the Republicans to resist, to fight fascism. Once, outside imperilled Madrid, a loud speaker system was set up and Robeson sang his songs to the listened fighting lines. They throats and jumps in their by the great New Yorks. Inspired held off the fas

Now his focus coming into sharp focus. Robeson clearly sees his purpose in life. He lives with one idea, "Defend democracy, fight fascism." He becomes a singer of democracy, bringing a message of courage and hope to the peoples of Europe. In 1939 he visits the Scandinavian countries and in Oslo, Copenhagen and Stockholm he receives tumultuous, unprecedented receptions which become anti-fascist demonstrations. In Oslo, after a concert in which 19,000 people were outside of the hall, the Nordic patriots fell to their hands and knees, kissing his hands.

No fight for democracy, no matter how small and seemingly insignificant, fails to get his support in money, songs or speeches.

And he says: "I cannot believe in art for art's sake. My art must be a weapon to fight for freedom. I must remain true to my conscience and my people. I must never betray them."

Paul Robeson's two all-consuming loves right now are Othello and his 18-year-old Paul, Jr., who is a simply



MOST RECENT of his many honors was on April 2 when Mr. Robeson received this award for his contributions to national racial unity from George Marshall, chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

land. He goes to Springfield Tech. in Mass. . . . Paul is the center of the basketball team, plays baseball, and has already broken three records in track. He is an amazing scholar, speaks five languages, and has received his license as a pilot.

Robeson has the same kind of affinity with his son as he had with his father and will love you if you will only sit and listen to him speak of Paul's feats.

Robeson has a remarkable memory for music, names and faces but is at a loss when dealing with workaday details. He will absent-mindedly wear two different socks or wear a blue jacket to a black pair of trousers, never matching them. He is always for-

week. When he walks down the street with an armload of packages, harassed Diane will say, "Paul's passed a bookshop again." He is a noted linguist, speaking nine languages, including the rare African tongue of Swahili. Currently he is studying Yiddish—by way of a schoolboy's primer. He teaches himself, having devised an ingenious method whereby he breaks down a language into something like basic English. He "broke the back of Chinese in three months."

He is glad he doesn't have to make train trips because in all his many travels in many countries he has never been able to find a berth large enough for him, with the result that he rarely ever has better sleep on his train trips.

before on a concert stage. He had never dreamed of becoming a concert singer. For one thing he couldn't even read music and then again he didn't have a repertoire of songs.

But he did know hundreds of Negro folk songs and spirituals and, as it later turned out, that was more than enough. His first public concert took place on West 8th Street in Greenwich Village on April 19, 1926. It was a tremendous success and thus was launched one of the most remarkable careers in the history of the concert stage.

It was in the folk song and became a message of solidarity for all people. It became a weapon which he brandished as a means of bringing people together, of fighting inequality and reaction.

Success followed success and in the late twenties he made the first of many trips to England, during the course of which he was to become one of the most beloved artists in the history of the

United States. His folk songs, although sung in many languages, were understood by the people of the Isles. To them he brought a new form of international people's solidarity.

The British people fell head over heels in love with him and his fame was established on a rock-solid foundation. He not only sang; he played his first Othello in London and was the star of many dramatic productions as well as motion pictures. With him all this time, in fact his very first concert, was his beloved and inseparable friend and accompanist, Lawrence (Larry) Brown who, perhaps, more than any other living

Present were Lord Beaverbrook, Churchill, various lords and their ladies and all in all about a billion dollars worth of royalty including King Alphonse of Spain who had an American blonde with him that night. The music had begun and Robeson was about to sing when he heard Alphonse talking to the blonde in the rear of the hall. He stopped and stared at the King. An uneasy silence followed, punctuated only by the King's inane chatter, when suddenly, the Prince of Wales, in a fury, strode over, hushed him and made him sit up front where he could be watched. Robeson looked at him disdainfully and to sing.

"You see," he says now, with his broad smile, "King or no King, I just wasn't going to sing until he got quiet."

It is 1934 now. Fascism has already taken Germany in its cancerous grip. The threat of war and reaction hangs grimly over Europe and the world. Robeson, now internationally famous, is nevertheless troubled, and seeks an answer to his questions.

He seeks a way out of his own experiences that he must ally himself with others fighting for democracy, and despite his wholesome instincts his ideas have not yet been crystallized into scientific thought.

Then, at a meeting of African princes and princesses in London, he meets a Negro worker who tells him to go to the masses, the laboring folks, for his answer. He tells Paul of the new experiment in Russia and Robeson says, "Russia, yes, I've heard of it. I'll be there shortly." Six days later he is in the Soviet Union.

"How can I describe my feelings upon crossing the Soviet border?" he says, "All I can is that the moment I came there I

father.

He lives Othello and breathes Othello. To him it means everything, at once both great art and a mighty social weapon.

His son Paul will enter Dartmouth this fall. Standing 6 feet tall and weighing 186 pounds, he has been labeled one of the greatest high school football players ever developed in New Eng-

getting to carry along money and will approach Diane Summers, his secretary at the Council for African Affairs, with a sheepish grin, saying: "Diane, I need some money, the cabbie is waiting outside." With a boyish smile he will accept Diane's admonition to be careful.

He is a prodigious reader, going through six and seven books a

avid chess player but admits to constant defeats at the hands of his son Paul. His one real weakness is ice cream which he devours by the quart.

He intends taking Othello on tour next season. "We must go to Detroit and St. Louis and Chicago with our message. And we'll play Washington and Baltimore in the public parks, if necessary." Robeson owns the only theater contract in stage history which allows him to walk out on a performance if there has been "any discrimination against, or segregation of, Negroes in the audience."

He wants badly to dispel any fears people may have about his voice being injured by the strain of playing Othello. "I intend to renew my concert tours after we finish with Othello and my voice is better than it has been in the past ten years." He is an honorary member of three great trade unions, the National Maritime Union, the State, County and Municipal Workers and Harry Bridges International Longshoreman and Warehousemen's Union. Also a full-fledged member of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

He has only his brother, Reverend Ben Robeson, and a sister, Marian, a Philadelphia school teacher, are alive.

Marian Robeson
To Robeson, Teheran is the turning point of world history. "It shows the way to a new period of human happiness, but we must still fight in order to guarantee it."

This, in small part, is the man Robeson. There can be no better way to bring this short biography to a close than to quote the end of the fiery, impassioned speech he made three weeks ago at the dinner of the Federation of Constitutional Liberties.

"I hate fascism with all my being and would murder it as it would murder me."



MAYOR MURICE TOBIN of Boston looks on while Mr. Robeson signs his historic visitors' book in City Hall. The signing took place after Mayor Tobin presented Mr. Robeson with the keys to the city.

APRIL 16, 1944

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It'll Get You Invasion News

By FRANK LESSER

At a Royal Signal Depot Somewhere in England



GOLDEN ARROW is the name given this new mobile wireless station, the largest now in use. Picture shows an interior of a "Golden Arrow."
—AP Wire Photo

JUST as soon as our invasion forces have established themselves in a beachhead on the Continent, a tank-landing craft will ride in to the beach and from it will roll off a small commander's utility car, followed by two long vans and two standard three-ton army trucks towing trailers.

If the roads are usable, this convoy will speed along at any time of day to a spot near General Montgomery's Army Group headquarters previously designated.

Within four hours of the convoy reaching its destination, Allied Command headquarters in Britain will be receiving wireless code reports of the progress of our soldiers.

For the convoy which I have described is a Golden Arrow—a mobile wireless station capable of handling the frame of a small, commercial, high-speed transmitting and receiving station which would take many months to erect.

In the first stages of the invasion battles, it will be stations like these—for the Germans will destroy all the permanent radio installations—which will carry back to General Eisenhower

information and the requirements of the troops in the field.

They will also transmit to the people of this country the reports of the newspaper correspondents on the fighting front.

Here, in a big open field, a Golden Arrow is at work. The standard 72-foot aerial poles are erected, and the connections made with the transmitting van. Some 700 yards away stands the receiving and sending van.

It is in this latter section that most of the highly-skilled crew of the Golden Arrow work. They are Group "A" craftsmen of the Royal Corps of Signals.

The whole unit is powered by a diesel generator, and there is always a generator in reserve. These were the two mysterious-looking covered trailers which we saw coming off the landing craft.

While the automatic equipment of this wireless station can send and receive messages in Morse at a top speed of 250 words a minute—80 to 100 is the average—the signalman must be ready in an emergency to operate the hand-key at top speeds.

The men who operate these stations have a proud record. From Bengal to Italy, they have always started on or before scheduled time. In special cases, they have dealt with 350,000 words daily instead of the usual 200,000.

America's Good Earth

Top-flight novelist Pearl Buck says America will grow in the rich experience of learning about other peoples. She doesn't hold



down deeper into the soil of America.

By MARGARET MARKHAM

TO PEARL BUCK, Pulitzer prize winner, and first American woman novelist to be awarded the Nobel prize, "The Good Earth" is more than just the title of her most famous novel. Having written of the good earth, Miss Buck now spends most of her time tilling it.

"I'm a hard-working American farmer," she proudly asserts. "Our farm in Pennsylvania isn't just one of those 'hobby farms.' It's a real job and I go about it very seriously."

"You see, I've always been concerned with the problems of American farmers. They are experiencing essentially the same changes that businessmen in this country have undergone—the change to big business monopolies and to industrialized farm monopolies. I'm neither a big nor a small sharecropper, but somewhere in between. So I sense what is happening."

Miss Buck's appearance outwardly deceiving. Dressed in a trim tweed suit and a crisp blouse, and seated at her desk in the office of the East-West Association, she resembled the efficient business woman far more than the farmer. I was as impressed by her directness and her friendliness the second time as I had been at our first meeting the day before. When I had introduced myself to her, and explained why the *Daily Worker* was anxious for an interview, Miss Buck had immediately responded, "The *Daily Worker*? Why, yes, of course. When would you like an appointment?"

So there I was the very next morning, interviewing an American farmer as well as an internationally famous writer. Alarmed at the prospect, however, of a

Pearl Buck bent only on yielding a hoe instead of a pen, I hastened to ask if she intended ever writing another book.

"Goodness!" she exclaimed, "Why I intend to keep on writing until I die. I'm already working on my next novel, which will deal with the problems arising from the new relationship between men and women. The scene will be laid in China, but the story will have a general application. Somehow I rather wish I had grown in my own country instead of in China. I'd like to have had my roots in America!"

"It seems to me that the United States is today a sort of testing ground for the solution of all the real problems that one finds in countries throughout the world. Here I can see at close range a cross-section of racial, class and group problems. In America, I can get, so to speak, a glimpse of the future that awaits all other countries. After all, everything goes back to human relationships and to the plain every-day necessity of earning one's bread and butter. Here, in this country, I have the feeling that I am in the midst of working out such problems."

Though Pearl Buck had lived in China since she was some six months old, she had always had a deep interest in economic and social developments in both countries. She had often linked the fate of the American Negro to that of the Chinese peasant. In 1932, addressing a meeting of Negroes in Harlem, she deplored the fact that 13,000,000 Negroes in the United States were still unable to take full part in the social, economic and cultural life of the nation.

In her speech, Miss Buck was but carrying on the tradition of her West Virginia forebears of whom she had written, "Neither of my grandfathers, although they

were landed gentry, and men of some wealth and position, was ever willing to buy or sell human beings. Indeed, my paternal grandfather seems at times to have been considerably persecuted because he made it a principle that he hired men irrespective of whether or not they were colored or white, and he paid them equal wages for equal work."

A particularly rich experience still lies ahead for most Americans, Miss Buck contends, in learning to understand other peoples. Pouring to a stack of books from her library shelves, she explained, "I am sending these to some of our boys stationed in China. Officers and enlisted men both beg for any reading matter that will help them to understand the Chinese people."

"I can imagine," she continued with a smile, "the confusion that must exist where you find lively young Americans from the Midwest thrown right in among the practical, non-sensuous peasants of raw China. Why, our boys have trouble to get meat in one day, let alone see family a whole week. The Chinese just don't know what to do with them and their appetites!"

"Fortunately, the Chinese people have the characteristic of being able to go outside of themselves and their background to try to understand other people. Besides that, the understanding of our men is constantly growing, so that I dare say they will manage to get along all right."

Americans on the homefront, as well as servicemen, are getting a clearer idea of and a closer feeling for other peoples according to Pearl Buck. This internationally-minded writer is quick to direct attention to the contributions being made to that understanding by foreign-born writers.

"Writers like Louis Adamic, with his personal knowledge of the Yugoslav people, are certainly giving us the facts so that we are better able to comprehend the people of other countries."

"Writers who came back from Spain did a fine job, too," Miss Buck reminded. "They certainly focused attention on the Spanish war and helped give a much sharper and clearer picture of it. Don't you think?"

"Yes." "The same thing is happening in China," she went on. "There is a new theatre movement which is for the first time discovering its own people. Its plays deal with the struggles and the daily lives of peasants and fighters. I received recently of a prize contest held in Chungking which was won by the famous writer, Lao-sha."

"For me it is an encouraging sign," she mused, "that the barriers which formerly existed between the Chinese people and the intellectuals, even those who come from humble backgrounds, are breaking down. It means, too, that they have stopped imitating the plays that were the style in European and American cities."

Miss Buck emphasizes the fact, however, that the same tendency is not developing more rapidly in her own country. As a Pennsylvania farmer, she has come to realize how remote many American writers are from the lives of people outside the large cities.

"I don't consider myself an intellectual and I certainly don't hold for any ivory towers," she said.

"National culture must be an amalgamation of talents and experiences of all kinds of people. To create such a culture, a writer must keep in close touch with the people."

"I hope there will be more of that in the world to come. I hope that the plans made at Teheran really come off and that the Chinese people, among others, will be given perfect freedom to work out their own problems."

Meanwhile, Pearl Buck is not waiting for that new world before doing her share. In addition to keeping a regular date with her typewriter and with her publisher, to whom she is married, this energetic American farmer intends to keep right on planting her roots deeper and deeper in American soil.



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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PCZ:ETS
100-4931

New York, N. Y.
June 9, 1945

Director, FBI

Re: COMMUNIST POLITICAL ASSOCIATION;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and three copies of
a six page log setting forth the results of a conference between
[redacted] and [redacted] of the
COMMUNIST POLITICAL ASSOCIATION, which conference took place [June 3,
1945], according to Confidential Informant [redacted] b7c b1

It is believed that PAUL, HARRY, FOSTER and EARL mentioned
in the log may be identified as PAUL ROBESON, HARRY BRIDGES, WILLIAM Z.
FOSTER, and EARL BROWDER.

This log contains a discussion of EARL BROWDER in connection
with the National Board resolution of June 2, 1945.

A summary of this log was furnished the Bureau by teletype
dated June 4, 1945.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) [redacted]
DATE [redacted]

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy,
SAC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Encls. 4
cc: NY 100-23825
NY 100-9292

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CLASS. & EXT. BY SR5 RSC/CWC
REASON FOR EXT. 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/20/90

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JUL 7 1945
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

50 JUL 17 1945

FCZ: T

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INCOMING

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

6/3/45

FROM: BEN DAVIS
TO: [REDACTED]

b2

B: Hello man.
Hullo BEN.

B: How are you?
OK.

B: You got any different ideas?
No. Why?

B: See if I can help.
So, what's on your mind?

B: Well I don't know, I was thinking about the points you raised, you know, one about the division in the ... (ind.) and the other one which seems to be to the effect that you don't feel that there was sufficient application of the policy we had. Aren't those the two?
Part of it.

B: Huh?
Part of it BEN.

B: Well I don't know, maybe, I'd like to get together with you and talk, talk something about this business. Can't do it tonight but some other time.
OK, be glad to.

B: Huh?
OK, be glad to.

B: How you feel, OK?
Sure. Why shouldn't I?

B: Well I feel terrible.
Well I feel we have a very serious situation, we have a very serious situation but

B: Yeah look, I saw PAUL, I had a talk with him last night and then I had a more extended talk with him today. He sees it immediately
Yeah?

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REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/20/90

ENCLOSURE

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B: And he was just telling me how, you know, he didn't think much about our past policies, as he said he never dreamed that we went so far, you see? He figured that at some later time it will be necessary for us to regroup ourselves in the old party, and that this whole business was the change from CP to CPA. He figured this was purely something tactical you see, and he accepted it as such and didn't think much more about it, so he's read DUCLOS' article and while we were together this afternoon we went over parts of it and it's really amazing, he says that it's obvious that we went too far, that's the way he sees it, and he was just giving me some of his experiences you see, on the Coast he met with some of the Chambers of Commerce out there in Portland and in San Francisco, and he was just saying that well by George it's clear that these guys are already getting very different orientation, and he was talking about HARRY. He says that well he himself, he and HARRY had some slight disagreement because HARRY was busy telling him how these guys were OK you see, and he was talking to them about the negro question, especially about the problem of about 40,000 negroes out there who are going to be laid off and who don't have anywhere to live, won't have any jobs in this whole period between now and reconversion, and he says these guys are prepared to do nothing, these Chamber of Commerce guys, and he mentioned that this is, that these people are more definitely allied in their views with ERIC JOHNSTON who is considered progressive than they are with anybody else, and he says he put the question to him very flat, "Well now what are you going to do with these 40,000 negroes?" He says, "You can't let them starve, you got to give them some place to live", and so forth and so on. He says oh well they figure that oh well they'll get along, something will happen. So he made some proposal to them about it, well he says just nothing against nothing. So he was talking to HARRY about it and HARRY said that, "Well you know I think you underestimate these people and I tell you I really think their heart's in the right place", and so forth and so on, but he himself had no proposal about the same thing, and that he seemed to place a lot more confidence in them than PAUL'S experience with them showed them to deserve. Well he cited a couple of other instances and of course the main thing he had to say, well it's very obvious that whatever you say of our position in the past, it's very obvious now that this perspective is just impossible insofar as he sees it in his personal experience, but he had never thought that the policies that we had were such as to preclude our foreseeing this. Then we went over this

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thing, this DUCLOS article and talked about it a little and he, well his opinion is its obvious that FOSTER is right because FOSTER foresaw these things, and to read FOSTER now, at least these excerpts, gives the, certainly gives the impression that FOSTER saw what was going to happen and that the policies we had, BROWDER didn't see it. So I mean he really just, he saw this thing very very clearly. Anyway I was very much happy over it, he's going to try to get in touch with EARL and you know talk to EARL and see what EARL thinks and see what EARL would say to him and then he would say to EARL what he thinks and so forth, see if it would have any effect. Well anyway that's, I thought you'd be interested in knowing that.

It will be very very good if he sees EARL.

B: Yeah. So I'm, I think he's going to try to see EARL tomorrow. Be very good if he does.

B: Yeah yeah.
Should speak his mind frankly.

B: Yeah yeah. OK old man.
See that's a problem, you guys have got some problems with me but they're not of a basic character.

B: Yeah I know.
Not of a basic character. When I said I was prepared to vote for it that meant I have no basic disagreements with it, and when I abstained that wasn't a sign of basic disagreement, you got, you guys, well that's beside the point, but the real problem is EARL, if we can straighten him out.

B: That's right.
If we can straighten him out.

B: That's right, that's right.
If he can't be straightened out, well

B: Its too bad.
Then that's another thing.

B: Yeah.
But the responsibility for that happening should be placed upon him, upon him.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

B: Well look, I don't quite figure him out [redacted] you see he's no fool, he's got a tremendous mind and I'm a son of a gun, I read this thing and read it, and after I have these discussions I go over it again and I just compare it with our, with MARXISM as I understand it and compare it also to some extent with what's happening now and what we said say a year ago. Well it just seems so clear to me, I remember the first time I spoke I had a certain, well I have a kind of a modesty, a feeling of humility about these things because, well you know what we all think of EARL. Well, but J.... C..... the damn thing looks elementary, just looks elementary to me and [redacted] Its not that simple to everybody.

B: Well all right its, maybe its not simple but [redacted] No, I say to everybody.

B: Yeah well you're no fool either [redacted] I hope not.

B: Well you got a good head on you too. I don't know what the hell it is. But as I say, I can't figure EARL out, I just can't figure him out. The only way I can figure it is that its such a terrific shattering blow. [redacted] So that might be.

B: Well I don't know how to reach him. [redacted] That might be, then another factor too.

B: What? [redacted] That it might be.

B: Well? [redacted] See, that, well its just a matter of judgment, its not decisive but it wasn't, I don't think, I think there was too much of a tendency to force the issue too quick. That aroused all of his stubbornness and bullheadedness and everything else, that might be one thing.

B: May be something in that, may be something in that. But its just, its inconceivable to me that the article could be wrong, just inconceivable, I think that's beyond any question, so that if its any factor at all its the subjective factor, that's the only way I can see it. And for EARL to react properly on this thing now would just make him a thousand times bigger. [redacted] Sure.

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B: I don't know how to, I can't imagine how to reach him, cause that's the only thing that bothers me, I'm not in the slightest disturbed about the conclusion in my mind about the correctness, I'm worried about EARL, that's the only thing that bothers me.

So that's a very important thing to worry about, its not only a question of the individual.

B: I know it.

But that individual, much in him belongs to us and when we lose him we lose that. Well we will still be strong and even stronger, but we have an investment.

B: That's true, but look

And we should try and save that investment if possible.

B: But look there's only one question now. The first thing to do is to get a correct policy, that's the first thing to do, there just can't be any bringing these two things together, has to be a correct policy first.

So what are you arguing with me for, I'm not standing for that.

B: Well I'm saying there has to be a correct policy first, and then on the basis of that then to move in every conceivable way, warm, human, personal, political, anything else.

Its not a question of personal because this has to be placed purely upon a political basis.

B: I know, I know but as I say, once we get the correct line then Yeah, see, but sometimes we can have a correct line and fight for it in such a manner as not to carry everybody with us, that's one of the big problems that you got with our own membership now. You can fight for that correct line in such a God damn manner that instead of promoting unity you'll have the opposite effect.

B: Yeah, but at least there has to be first a correct line. That's correct.

B: OK.

That's correct.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

B: All right, well now naturally be imperfections in the way in which we fight for it because any group as we are who made such a basic error as that there must be plenty of imperfections in everything we do, must be. So I'm not so worried about that. Well anyhow, if you think of any ways you think that we might possibly help EARL I hope you can stop to utilize it. There's not much, I think its a good idea to have PAUL speak to him.

B: Well he will.
I wouldn't have too many, but people like that.

B: Yeah he will, he thinks a lot of PAUL.
People like that, and, well general atmosphere too will help him.

B: Yeah. Do you think it would help if I did?
Well you got to use your own judgment. I don't think it would hurt, I don't think it would hurt. The main thing, at least for the present, is that people shouldn't treat EARL as if he's already considered an enemy.

B: That's right.
And that note was beginning to be injected.

B: Yeah.
That's isn't going to help.

B: Yeah that's right.
Maybe we'll have to treat EARL as an enemy but that, the discussion hasn't revealed that necessity yet.

B: Yeah, I don't agree with that.
See?

B: I don't agree with that. Well OK.
Listen, during the week, I can't suggest the time now, but during the week I'll see you.

B: All right.
Thanks for calling BEN.

B: OK.
R: OK.

- END -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 6, 1945

FROM : S. J. DRAYTON, SAC, Chicago

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

A brief summary of PAUL ROBESON's activities in Chicago during April, May, and June of this year is being forwarded for the information of the Bureau and the New York Field Division.

ROBESON began an engagement of his play "Othello" on April 9, 1945 at the Erlanger Theater and closed a six-weeks engagement on May 19, 1945. His return to Chicago in June was for the purpose of fulfilling a commitment made for an affair on June 17, 1945 which was sponsored by Du Sable Lodge 751, International Workers Order.

The information contained in this letter was reported by Confidential Informants [redacted] unless specifically attributed to another source.

The confidential informants advised agents of this office that throughout the subject's stay in Chicago during April and May, WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Assistant Director, Abraham Lincoln School, and Alternate Member, National Committee, Communist Political Association, handled all the subject's engagements which had any social or political significance. The influence and interest of the CPA was evident in numerous activities in which the subject participated and according to informants ROBESON's appearances were scheduled with the view in mind of enhancing the prestige of the Abraham Lincoln School, and were usually scheduled for the financial benefit of communist front organizations or for groups known to contain members or sympathizers of the CPA.

Preliminary arrangements for appearances of the subject at major affairs were made by MAX YERGAN of New York, Director, National Council of African Affairs.

[redacted] that prior to ROBESON's coming to Chicago he had warned RAY HANSBROUGH, Member of the National Committee, CPA, and Second Vice-President, District No. 8, CPA, that the association should not be brought too far to the front in a big affair planned for the benefit of the Abraham Lincoln School.

A number of party functionaries of District No. 8, CPA, including MORRIS CHILDS, President, and PHIL BART, Secretary, contacted PATTERSON on a number of occasions regarding affairs being planned for ROBESON. BART was reported very interested in original plans for a birthday celebration the School promoted on May 15, 1945. On April 11, 1945 informants, including [redacted] reported that PATTERSON was contacted by a representative of the Hearst-owned "Herald-American" newspaper asking that ROBESON

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REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
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Director, FBI
July 6, 1945

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Speak at the Monroe Doctrine Oratorical Contest on April 12, 1945 sponsored by the "Herald-American". According to informants, PATTERSON refused to accept the responsibility of making a decision regarding this appearance and requested the opinion of officials at CPA headquarters. Informants advised that PATTERSON and CPA officials debated the propriety of ROBESON appearing on what they termed an enemy platform, but after discussing the matter thoroughly with MORRIS CHILDS, OTTO WANGERIN, Daily Worker Representative, DAVID ENGLESSTEIN, Educational Director, District No. 8, CPA, AND PHIL BART, PATTERSON advised ROBESON to accept the invitation. Informants state that because PATTERSON was pressed for time he attempted to persuade one of the CPA officials at headquarters to write ROBESON'S talk. PATTERSON indicated to one of the informants, however, that he was left with the responsibility of obtaining someone to write the speech and ENGLESSTEIN offered to review it and make suggestions following the preparation.

The Abraham Lincoln School, alleged communist front organization, capitalized on the subject's Chicago engagement to benefit the School's treasury by several thousand dollars. A \$100-per-couple dinner was held on April 15, 1945 at the Standard Club under the auspices of the School and netted a profit of \$5,000. The dinner was attended by one hundred ten persons, the majority of whom are reliably reported to be members of the CPA or sympathizers with that organization. According to informants, ROBESON in his talk on this occasion praised BROWDER and the CPA for its stand on the Negro and anti-Semitic questions. According to PATTERSON, the same material used in this talk was also to be used in ROBESON'S talks before audiences in two large Jewish temples, merely omitting specific mention of the CPA or identifying the philosophy of the CPA by name.

Informants advised that ROBESON maintained a rigorous schedule during his stay in Chicago during April and May, sometimes making two or three appearances in addition to his performances in "Othello". It was also reported by informants that PATTERSON was besieged with requests for the subject's appearance and many of the requests were made by representatives of alleged communist front groups which desired to capitalize on ROBESON'S popularity to increase the financial success of events. Several union officials, most of whom are reportedly members or functionaries of the CPA and associates of PATTERSON, also sought and obtained ROBESON'S presence at affairs. The largest union-sponsored affair was the United Nations Day, under the auspices of United Packinghouse Workers of America-CIO, which was attended by approximately five thousand members, half of whom were white and half Negro. Arrangements for ROBESON'S appearance on this occasion were made with PATTERSON by HERBERT MARCH, reportedly a prominent member of the CPA and District Director of UPWA.

According to [REDACTED] ROBESON also attended a membership meeting of United Automobile Workers of America-CIO, Local 453, on May 15, 61

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Director, FBI
July 6, 1945

RE: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

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1945 and was made an Honorary Member of that local on the motion of
SAV. MARIANI, Member of the Executive Committee, District No. 8, CPA.

According to informants, subject's talks were reported to center about the broad topic of the San Francisco Conference. He sang and spoke at a meeting sponsored by six campus organizations, including American Youth for Democracy, at the University of Chicago on May 15, 1945 and it was noted by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who attended the meeting, that ROBESON in calling for racial equality praised highly the examples set by Russia in which country he stated he and his family spent several years. In his talk ROBESON also condemned the Fascists, both at home and abroad, and predicted that FRANCO in Spain would soon suffer the same end as befell MUSSOLINI. b7c

Immediately preceding ROBESON's departure from Chicago on May 20, 1945 he spoke on the subject, "San Francisco and the Negro" at a large affair sponsored by the newly organized Chicago Council on African affairs. This event was arranged by MAX YERGAN of New York, WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, and ISHMAEL P. FLOREY, Secretary, Negro People's Assembly, and reportedly a member of the Executive Committee, District No. 8, CPA. Because of uncertainty connected with the subject's scheduled appearance overseas, a luncheon benefit for the Abraham Lincoln School scheduled for June 18, 1945 was cancelled. It was learned through informants that MARSHALL FIELD, Publisher of the "Chicago Sun", had agreed to sponsor the luncheon for the LaSalle Street Businessmen in honor of ROBESON. The subject did return to Chicago, however, on June 17, 1945, to keep a commitment to appear on that date before a large affair held under the auspices of DuSable Lodge 751, International Workers Order. The Du Sable Lodge, with an all-Negro membership, claims over two thousand members which makes it the largest lodge in the IWO.

It was also learned through [REDACTED] and local newspapers that ROBESON remained in Chicago to appear at the 15th Anniversary Dinner of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, an alleged communist dominated organization, on June 19, 1945. According to an article in the "Daily News" for June 6, 1945, the dinner was sponsored by MARSHALL FIELD and PAUL ROBESON and it was subsequently learned through an informant that the Committee received commitments amounting to \$25,000 on the occasion of the dinner. b7D

JEC:OC
61-147

cc - New York

CONFIDENTIAL X

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY FILE NO. **100-25357 CTC**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 7/25/45	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/23, 24, 25; 4/23; 5/1, 2, 23/45	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE CHANGED: PAUL ROBESON, wa John Thomas			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject continues to be active in Council on African Affairs and is working for Communist front organizations. Subject is reported to be a member of the CPA under name of JOHN THOMAS by informant of this office.

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** New York, 12/8/42.

DETAILS:

Subject is carried as a Key Figure in the New York Field office.

The title of this case is being changed in order to reflect the additional alias of the subject, JOHN THOMAS, inasmuch as Confidential Informant **[REDACTED]** whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised Special Agent **[REDACTED]** on April 27, 1944, that subject's CPA name was JOHN THOMAS.

Confidential Informant **[REDACTED]** whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that PAUL ROBESON, on February 28, 1941, spoke at a memorial dinner for the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade at Manhattan Center, New York City. Informant advised that subject said the present war was an imperialistic conflict and was harmful to the people from every point of view. The subject is reported as having said that only in a world where the people's government existed, such as in one-sixth of the world, could there be real peace and democracy. Informant further pointed out that the subject was made an honorary

APPROVED AND FORWARDED **[Signature]**

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

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CLASS. & EXT. BY **SP-5 RSG/CLM**
 REASON-FOR **42-2-13**
 DATE OF REVIEW **11/20/90**

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NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

member of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and stated when given the pin of membership "It is the proudest moment of my life and I'll always wear the pin".

On January 9, 1943, Confidential Informant [redacted] whose reliability is not questioned, advised that VICTOR WEINGARTEN of the National Maritime Union, requested GEORGE MORRIS of the Daily Worker, to run a story concerning the Captain HUGH MULZAC dinner being sponsored by the NMU and at which PAUL ROBESON, ZERO MOSTEL, a comic, and Mrs. ANNA M. ROSENBERG, of the War Manpower Commission, would speak. It is noted that in the January 12, 1943 issue of the Daily Worker, on page 3, column 4, there is reported a story to the effect that subject sang at a dinner given at the Hotel Commodore, New York City, for Captain HUGH MULZAC, negro skipper of the SS Booker T. Washington. This dinner took place on January 12, 1943. b7D

On January 19, 1943, Confidential Informant [redacted] whose reliability is not questioned, advised that AL ROTHBART of the CPA Waterfront Section of New York City, conferred with BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr. of the Harlem Section of the CPA, and ROTHBART told DAVIS that he, ROTHBART, had talked with JOSH (JOSHUA LAURENCE) who thinks that PAUL ROBESON should be invited to a meeting on January 30, 1943. ROTHBART informed DAVIS that PAUL ROBESON was a member of the NMU, not of the Communist Party, and BENJAMIN DAVIS pointed out that PAUL ROBESON was interested in seamen regardless of any politics. Consequently, DAVIS said he would invite ROBESON on the same day. Then Informant reported that AL ROTHBART told ARTHUR SHIELDS of the Daily Worker not to use PAUL ROBESON's name in the story about the Waterfront Section Banquet because it was not to be an open meeting and "not the thing to do". b7D

In the issue of the PEOPLES VOICE, Harlem newspaper, for January 23, 1943, there is an advertisement to free Professor MORRIS U. SCHAPPES, an alleged Communist of City College, New York City, who was imprisoned for perjury by the State of New York. The subject is quoted as saying "I want to be identified in every way with this movement.....to free MORRIS SCHAPPES ...this responsibility is the first charge upon all of us to fight Fascism for freedom.....".

Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that the April 6, 1943 pamphlet of the National Council of American and Soviet Friendship, Inc., listed PAUL ROBESON as a sponsor. In this communication it is noted that on November 8, 1943, the subject appeared on a program of the second American Soviet Friendship Congress at Madison Square Garden, New York City. b1

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On May 2, 1943, Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised at a Unity for Victory Rally which was held at the Yankee Stadium, New York City, subject appeared on the program which had as its presiding officer JOSEPH CURRAN of the National Maritime Union and the subject sang several workers' songs such as "The People's Army" and "The Ballad of America". b1

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that JOSEPH CURRAN of the NMU conferred on May 14, 1943 with an individual called MackENZIE and said that PAUL ROBESON should be secured for the launching of the SS Frederick Douglas at Baltimore, Maryland on May 22, 1943 because "of the negro situation there", since about 20,000 shipyard workers would want PAUL. Informant [redacted] advised on the 17th of May, 1943, that a Mr. DRURY conferred with FERDINAND SMITH of NMU about the launching of the SS Frederick Douglas at Baltimore and DRURY informed SMITH that it was important that PAUL ROBESON be present at the launching activities since the ship was to have a negro captain. Informant [redacted] further advised on May 27, 1943 that FERDINAND SMITH of the NMU and MAX YERGAN of the Council on African Affairs discussed the possibility of having PAUL ROBESON contact Mrs. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT if HAROLD ICKES or WENDELL WILKIE could be secured as speakers for the meeting of June 7, 1943 of the Negro Labor Victory Committee to be held in New York City. On June 1, 1943, Confidential Informant [redacted] whose reliability is not questioned, informed that JAMES FORD, PAUL ROBESON and DOROTHY K. FURN would re-write the script for the Negro Labor Victory Committee meeting which would be held at Madison Square Garden, New York City on June 7, 1943. (u)

The Daily Worker of July 4, 1943, on page 1, column 3, shows subject in a picture with Lt. Col. ITZIK ZEFFER and Moscow City Councilman Professor SOLOMON NICHOLS, whom he welcomed to New York City at a reception held at the Soviet Consulate, New York City. The Daily Worker on July 8, 1943, had an advertisement on page 5, column 6, for a mass meeting to be held at the Polo Grounds, New York City on that day for the visiting Russians and the subject is listed as a singer on the program.

On August 5, 1943, the Los Angeles Field Division reported that PAUL ROBESON accompanied FELIX AUSMAN, National Organizer of the Joint anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, from the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, California to the Philharmonic Auditorium, where they attended a freedom rally sponsored by this committee. Further on August 10, 1943, the San Francisco Field Division reported that PAUL ROBESON attended a party at the home of LOUISE BRANSTEN, 2626 Green Street, San Francisco, California, at which HARRY

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NY 100-25857

BRIDGES, CIO Labor leader, HERBERT PESNER, a CPA attorney, and REVELS CLAYTON, Vice President of the CIO of California and Communist Party member were in attendance. It is noted that PAUL ROBESON has, in the past, been very friendly with LOUISE BRANSTEN, who has received intimate letters from PAUL ROBESON.

The Daily Worker issue of August 28, 1943, reports on page 8, column 3, that the subject spoke on August 3, 1943 at San Francisco, California, at the Minority Committee of the CIO Council, urging unity in America and that there be no racial discrimination.

On November 8, 1943, the New Haven Field Division reported that PAUL ROBESON, with his wife and son, would be entertained at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D. C. on the same day.

On November 15, 1943, Confidential Informant [redacted] reported that the subject's name appeared on a list of sponsors of the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee for the election of BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr., the Communist Political Association candidate for the New York City Council and in this connection, the Daily Worker of October 7, 1943, on page 3, column 2, indicates that the subject supported BENJAMIN DAVIS on the Communist Party ticket for New York Councilman at the DAVIS for Victory show, which was held on October 24, 1943 at the Golden Gate Ballroom in Harlem, New York City. b1

Confidential Informant [redacted] furnished this office with a telegram the subject sent by Postal Telegram from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to the Pythian Temple, 135 West 70 Street, New York City, where a party for BEDACHT of the INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER was being held on October 12, 1943. This telegram said "Terribly sorry I am not there like rest of brothers and sisters in the IWO". Informant said that this telegram was read to the guests. b7D

On December 10, 1943, Confidential Informant [redacted] whose reliability is not questioned, reported that CAROL KING of the IID, conferred with EARL BROWDER and that EARL requested a copy of the letter which PAUL ROBESON sent to President Roosevelt about the cancellation of Mrs. BROWDER's deportation order. On January 26, 1944, Confidential Informant [redacted] a highly confidential and reliable source, revealed that under date of December 8, 1943, the subject wrote a letter to President Roosevelt concerning the deportation of Mrs. BROWDER and this letter said in part "I was shocked when I saw in this morning's paper that the Board of Immigration Appeals had refused to set aside the deportation order on RAISA BROWDER. The attempt of the Government to separate a wife and mother from her family would be dreadful at any time, but it is b7D

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particularly so now, when the Iran Conference has emphasized the need for decent treatment for citizens of all the United Nations.....As far as I can make out Mrs. BROWDER's 'evasiveness' consisted in her refusal to attack the Soviet Government under which she had lived for many years and to defend her husband and the American Communist Party of which he is General Secretary. In these days of close cooperation with the Soviet Union, many Americans had come to feel that the Government would no longer resort to persecuting individuals who refused to malign our gallant ally and the Communist Party in this country....."

On December 1, 1943, Confidential Informant [REDACTED] reported that LOUIS OGUL of the NMU mentioned to WAVERLY ROOT, a newspaper man, that PAUL ROBESON was being considered as Chairman of the Reichstag Fire meeting for DIMITROFF at Carnegie Hall, New York City on December 22, 1943. Further, this informant advised on December 2, 1943 that LOUIS OGUL conferred with an unidentified woman about having PAUL ROBESON as the Chairman of the sponsors of the tenth anniversary meeting of the Reichstag Fire Trial at Carnegie Hall on December 22, 1943. Also these individuals were reported to have discussed sending wires to Vice President HENRY WALLACE, United States Congressman SOL BLOOM, Helen Keller and Senator CLAUDE PEPPER for their greetings to the meeting. b7D

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] whose reliability is not questioned, advised that PAUL ROBESON, along with FREDERICK MYERS, Vice President of the National Maritime Union and acting chairman of the Reichstag Fire Trial Anniversary Committee, 55 West 42 Street, New York City, sent a cable to GEORGE DIMITROFF, Moscow, which said: b7D

"HISTORIC REICHSTAG FIRE TRIAL IN WHICH YOU PROVIDING WORLDS FIRST MAJOR VICTORIES OVER FASCISM WILL BE OBSERVED DECEMBER TWENTYSECOND AT GREAT TENTH ANNIVERSARY RALLY CARNEGIE HALL NEW YORK STOP TRIBUTE WILL BE PAID TO VETERANS OF THAT AND SUBSEQUENT ANTIFASCIST STRUGGLES BY NOTED PERSONALITIES INCLUDING LILLIAN HELLMAN COMMA ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS COMMA CHANNING TOBIAS OF YMCA NATIONAL BOARD COMMA LOUIS ADAMIC COMMA PHILIP VANGELDER COMMA EARL BROWDER STOP HOWARD FAST AUTHOR CITIZEN TOM PAINE HAS WRITTEN SPECIAL DRAMATIZATION FOR OCCASION STOP PURPOSE OF RALLY TO FURTHER UNITY FOR VICTORY STOP AMERICAN PEOPLE WOULD EAGERLY WELCOME MESSAGE TO BE READ AT MEETING FROM YOU AS HERO OF REICHSTAG FIRE TRIAL AND FOREMOST CHAMPION WORLD ANNIVERSARY AGAINST FASCISM."

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised this office that a letter had been written by the subject to various people in New York City, over the subject's signature to the effect that on December 22, at Carnegie Hall, b7D

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there would be held a meeting to commemorate the Tenth Anniversary of the Reichstag Fire Trial. This letter states "Undoubtedly you will recall how the Nazis fired the Reichstag in a conspiracy to destroy democracy within Germany as a prelude to launching their program for world conquest. You may remember, too, the heroic GEORGE DIMITROFF who fearlessly exposed this conspiracy within the very walls of the Nazi courtroom - and the splendid way in which liberal opinion throughout the world rallied to his defense". The letter continued by asking the receiver indicate whether or not he would be willing to attend this celebration.

On January 19, 1944, Confidential Informant [redacted] whose reliability is not questioned, indicated that SI GERSON of the New York State Headquarters of the Communist Party and SI PORTER, had talked about the formation of a new book club which would have an editorial board composed of PAUL ROBESON, ROCKWELL KENT and NORMAN THOMAS. On the tenth of February, 1944, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that SI PORTER talked with M. HEDLEY STONE, Vice President of National Maritime Union, about the formation of a new book club for NMU members, operating like the Book of the Month Club and in competition with the Book Find Club. These individuals indicated that the subject, along with others previously mentioned by Confidential Informant [redacted] would act as the editorial board, which would put out books at a saving for the members of the NMU. On the 17th of February, 1944, Informant [redacted] further indicated that SI PORTER talked with ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG about the formation of a new book club for the NMU members and PORTER mentioned that the editorial board would be "a window dressing" with the actual decisions as to publications being decided otherwise.

On February 3, 1944, Special Agent [redacted] ascertained that the subject had moved from 565 Edgecomb Avenue, New York, New York to 132 East 38th Street, New York City. It is further noted that Bureau letter dated December 7, 1943 to the New Haven Field Division indicated that the subject was also living at Enfield, Connecticut.

On March 17, 1944, the Daily Worker reported a speech PAUL ROBESON delivered at a Sun Yat-Sen Tribute meeting held March 12, at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City. In this speech he pointed out the parallel between China and Africa inasmuch as both lands had a glorious and ancient culture. Also the subject indicated in this speech that there were serious frictions in America today which might undermine the national war effort. He further indicated that the negro people were the worst sufferers of the foes of democracy and that in the Armed Forces, as well as in industry,

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the tradition of discrimination and white supremacy is kept alive by domestic enemies. Further, in this speech, he said "The picture of China's internal conflict as the Kowintang vs. the Chinese Communists is as false as Martin Dies' picture of his committee defending Congress and the Government against the American Communists". The subject said that China was fighting Fascism with one arm tied inasmuch as the Communist-led Eighth Route and New Fourth Armies were not being allowed to cooperate with the regular Chinese Army. He stated further that the three years blockade against the Chinese guerrilla forces must be lifted. The entire might and strength of China's 400 millions must be united under the leadership of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, for the earliest possible victory over Japan. In conclusion he stated "The democratic principles of Dr. Sun Yat-sen must be realized for China and for the world".

On March 28, 1944, the Daily Worker indicated that a banquet was held in subject's honor at the Hotel Brevoort in New York City, at which banquet it was announced that New York University in New York City would receive a \$200 a year endowment for 20 years from the CIO State County and Municipal workers for a scholarship in subject's name for negro students in the Public Administrative Graduate School.

Confidential Informant [redacted] whose reliability is not questioned, reported that BENJAMIN DAVIS, Jr. and GIL GREEN conferred on March 10, 1944, about the PAUL ROBESON birthday celebration to be held April 16, 1944 under the auspices of the Council on African Affairs at the Armory at 34 Street and Park Avenue, New York City. DAVIS suggested that GIL GREEN talk to ROY HUDSON and MAX YERGAN about the celebration since "a thing like that can't be successful without the support of and the active participation of all forces whom we influence". b7D

The April 5th issue of the Daily Worker contains an announcement that tickets for the birthday party of the subject to be held on April 16, 1944, would be on sale at the CPA Bookshop and the Council on African Affairs at 23 West 26 Street, New York City for the sum of \$1.00 to \$3.00. On the 13th of April, 1944, the by-line written by LOUISE MITCHELL in the Daily Worker indicated that at an interview with subject, he stated that his birthday party on April 16, 1944 at the 17th Regiment Armory in New York City, was really a Council on African Affairs party. He is quoted as saying that the post war peace and prosperity rest on the constructive solution of the problems of oppressed people everywhere. In this article, the subject also is reported to have said that just as the United States and Great Britain have realized that Mexico and South America want to be free, so too they will have to realize that 160 million Africans want equality.

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On the 15th of April, 1944, the Daily Worker reported that WILLIAM GAILMORE, an alleged Communist Party member, news analyst would interview the subject at 1:45 pm on April 16, 1944 over Station WHN in connection with his birthday party on the same day.

In the issue of the New York Herald Tribune of April 15, 1944, reference is made to the conference held on the 14th of April on African problems at the Institute for International Democracy, 23 West 26 Street (Council for African Affairs). This article indicates that the conference was held by PAUL ROBESON who said that he has asked President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull to take the lead in developing an agreement between the United Nations on a program to raise the living standards of Africans and other dependent peoples and prepare them for self-government within scheduled time limits.

Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported on April 17, 1944 that the birthday party of PAUL ROBESON's on April 16, 1944 at the 34th Street Armory, the subject spoke and said that he had "Traveled all over the world and has learned that not only negroes were suffering, but that refugees whom he had met, had proved to his satisfaction that all races were suffering in one part of the world or another". Further the subject is reported to have said that freedom could not be obtained in this country while people were oppressed in other countries. The subject further said that the liberated people of the Soviet Union were enjoying the rights and privileges of freedom. In this connection, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that ROBESON asserted that a comparatively limited few persons controlled the destinies of the people and that the 150 million people in Africa could not be held down. The subject is reported to have pointed out that history showed cases of people who were oppressed and who, in desperation, revolted and overthrew the oppressors. In addition, Informant advised that among the many notables attending the affair, there were Dr. MAX YERGAN of the Council on African Affairs, VICENETE LOMBARDO TOLEDANO, President of the Latin American Confederation of Workers, MARY McLEOD BETHUNE, JOSEPH CURRAN, BENJAMIN DAVIS and EARL BROWDER.

b1

See above
N.Y. *boy* In the Daily Worker of April 16, 1944, in the article written by SAMUEL PUTNAM, there appears a story concerning the subject's life and progress and it quoted ROBESON as saying about his first visit to the USSR "How can I describe my feelings upon crossing the Soviet border. All I can say is that the moment I came there I realized that I had found what I had been seeking all my life. It was a new planet—a new constellation. It filled me with such happiness as I have never before known in my life."

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Later in this article ROBESON is quoted as saying "I cannot believe in art for art's sake. My art must be a weapon to fight for freedom. I must remain true to my conscience and my people. I must never betray them". In this connection it is noted that in Who's Who for 1938, Volume 20, subject is listed as having been in Russia in 1938.

On April 19, 1944, the New York Field Division received word from the Bureau to the effect that Confidential Informant [redacted] of the Indianapolis Field Division had furnished information on November 28, 1942 covering a conversation he had with [redacted]

[redacted] is reported to have related that he was an active Communist Party member in [redacted] and had joined the party after a professional tour in England. [redacted] stated that on this tour, ROBESON met a man by the name of HARRY POLLET (phonetic) who was believed to have converted ROBESON to the Party. In addition, [redacted] claimed that upon ROBESON's return to the United States he donated his entire earnings from this trip in the amount of \$300,000.00 to the Communist Party. Finally, [redacted] reported to this informant that ROBESON and MOTHER BLOOR had later spent three months together in England and that he, [redacted] had used ROBESON with great success at the time [redacted]

In this connection, on April 27, 1944, Special Agent [redacted] ascertained from Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, that subject was a Communist Party member under the name of JOHN THOMAS.

On April 20, 1944, Confidential Informant [redacted] reported that over the signature of PAUL ROBESON, whose address was given as the Joint Anti-fascist Refugee Committee, 8505 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California, there was being sent a communication to various individuals concerning the solicitation of funds for a proposed room in a hospital in Mexico City for "The first fighters against Fascism who fought for the Loyalist Army in Spain". This communication mentioned that all artists of America were being solicited for funds.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on April 25, 1944 that subject was invited to attend the annual banquet of the Waterfront Club of Seamen at 111 Second Avenue, New York City, which would be held on April 27, 1944. Informant further advised that the subject's secretary, DIANNE SUMMERS, declined for the subject, due to his having two shows on the night of the 27th of April.

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on July 17, 1944 that BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr., Communist Party Councilman in New York City, talked with BILL LAWRENCE of the Daily Worker about securing WENDELL WILKIE on the committee to end Jim Crowism in baseball, of which committee PAUL ROBESON was to be the chairman. DAVIS is reported to have said that he was having dinner with PAUL, who was to arrange an appointment with WILKIE at which time BILL LAWRENCE and other newspaper men would "accidentally" turn up when PAUL ROBESON asked WILKIE to serve on the committee to end Jim Crowism. Also, Informant advised that DAVIS and LAWRENCE discussed inviting others to serve on the committee at PAUL's invitation and when these persons invited to serve on the committee said yes, a statement could then be issued in their name and PAUL "wouldn't have to do anything". Informant [redacted] further advised on July 17, 1944 that BENJAMIN J. DAVIS conferred with GIL GREEN and mentioned that PAUL ROBESON was endeavoring to make an appointment with BRANCH RICKY of the Brooklyn Dodgers "on the baseball question". It is noted that in the Daily Worker of December 2, 1943 on page 1, column 2, there is a statement that Jim Crowism in baseball suffered a bad blow when Judge K. M. Landis, Commissioner of Baseball, invited PAUL ROBESON to discuss the question of negro participation in the game on December 3, 1943 at the Hotel Roosevelt, New York City.

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On November 3, 1944, Special Agent [redacted] advised that in a pamphlet entitled "Equal Justice and Democracy in the Service of Victory" published in September, 1944, by the International Labor Defense in tribute to ANNA DAMON, former secretary of the International Labor Defense, there appeared a list of individuals who were listed as officers and members of the National Committee of the IID. On the National Committee was listed the name of PAUL ROBESON.

b7C

Confidential Informant [redacted] reported on November 23, 1944 that PAUL ROBESON informed MAX YERGAN of the Council on African Affairs that he, PAUL, could accept no more engagements of a political nature and do "Othello" on a road trip through the country since he was tired out by pre-election work in Detroit and Cleveland. However, Informant said that YERGAN asked ROBESON to get in touch with LOUISE (BRANSTEN) at San Francisco since LOUISE has been "unselfish in disregarding the needs of the Russian-American Institute and has thrown herself and her money to other things". In addition, Informant

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advised that YERGAN asked ROBESON to make arrangements to give the Council on African Affairs from \$750 to \$1,000 so as to avoid any financial embarrassments while the subject or YERGAN was away from New York City.

Confidential Informant [REDACTED], whose reliability is not questioned, advised that MAX YERGAN of the Council on African Affairs conferred with LOUISE BRANSTEN at San Francisco, California concerning the handling of tickets for the benefit performance of "Othello" in Los Angeles. In this connection, LOUISE BRANSTEN informed YERGAN that the subject should refuse an invitation of the San Francisco Council of American and Soviet Friendship and YERGAN agreed. b7D

Confidential Informant [REDACTED], whose reliability is not questioned, advised that ROBERT ROCKMORE, Attorney for the subject at 10 East 40 Street, New York City, conferred with MAX YERGAN and told the latter that the subject had given the Council on African Affairs \$1,000 in 1941 and \$500 to the Negro Youth Congress indirectly, but that although the Internal Revenue approved these contributions in New York City, Washington might not allow the deduction on the Income Tax and thereby cost ROBESON \$1,000 taxes in penalty. ROCKMORE is reported to have said that he wished to fight the Internal Revenue Collector's decision, but would not do so inasmuch as a fight would embarrass the Council on African Affairs. At this time, YERGAN said that the Council on African Affairs' income had been considered as exempt from taxes but he was undecided as to whether the contributors to the Council on African Affairs could make a claim for deduction on gifts to that organization. b7D

In the issue of the Daily Worker of February 13, 1945, there appears an article under date line of Los Angeles, on a meeting of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee held at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, California. This meeting reportedly raised \$17,000 for the committee, and among the guest speakers was the subject, who is quoted as having said "We are standing at the crossroads of history. Something is wrong when such Fascists as Hearst are allowed to mislead and misinform the American people. The American people do not entirely understand that we can have Fascism here, unless we learn how to use our productive resources for the benefit of all the people. We can't wait for Fascism to die out—and the oppressed peoples of the world will not wait. We must understand that we have already entered a changed world. We must have those 60 million jobs that Wallace speaks of. We must clean out our own fascists."

In the March 12, 1945 issue of the Daily Worker there appears an article under date line of San Francisco, March 11, which stated that PAUL ROBESON has urged President Roosevelt to end the deportation case against

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CIO regional director, HARRY BRIDGES. This article quotes subject as saying "HARRY BRIDGES has stood steadfastly against discrimination, steadfastly for equal treatment, and all this without regard to his own personal fortunes." In addition this article indicated that the Harry Bridges Victory Committee had released the complete text of Mr. ROBESON'S letter to the President in which he says "I realize the responsibilities that fall upon your great office. I realize that in the performance of that great office you are required to be dependent upon the advice of others. However, I also believe that in the matter of the Harry Bridges case, the advice has been unfortunate. As a Negro, I am conscious of the fact that Harry Bridges has stood steadfastly against discrimination, steadfastly for equal treatment". In conclusion, this article on the statement of subject's letter to the President concerning HARRY BRIDGES, he is reported to have said that the ending of the HARRY BRIDGES case would prove a great contribution towards the shortening the war and winning the peace.

Confidential Informant [redacted] reported on March 15, 1945 that PAUL ROBESON spoke with MAX YERGAN and YERGAN told ROBESON that he, YERGAN, would talk with MacLEISH of the State Department about ROBESON'S going to Europe with the play "Othello" and showing it to the troops. Also this Informant reported that YERGAN informed ROBESON that he, YERGAN, was going to see ARCHIBALD MacLEISH in Washington about the San Francisco affair (possibly meaning taking a Council on African Affairs representative to the Peace Conference).

On the 29th of March, 1945, Confidential Informant [redacted] reported that MAX YERGAN conferred with NORMAN CORWIN of the Columbia Broadcasting System about the world wide broadcast over CBS on April 24, 1945 with negro personages in Africa and the United States participating on the action of the United Conference in San Francisco. Informant advised that these individuals discussed the possibilities of securing PAUL ROBESON on the broadcast, with an interruption of his play "Othello", which would then be in Chicago, to say a few words on the program. YERGAN stated at this time, according to Informant, that the subject would be playing in Chicago from April 10 on, and YERGAN told CORWIN the subject could be reached for his approval of the radio program by calling the Mark Hopkins Hotel, San Francisco, California, where subject would be until March 31, 1945.

Confidential Informant [redacted] reported on April 11, 1945 that DIANNE SUMMERS, Secretary of PAUL ROBESON, told MAX LOW of the Daily Worker that PAUL would be in Chicago, Illinois for five or six weeks and would return to New York City sometime in June. On the following day, Confidential Informant [redacted] reported that ROBERT ROCKMORE, Attorney for PAUL ROBESON,

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informed DIANNE SUMMERS, that he, ROCKMORE, had just returned from visiting subject in Chicago, where "Othello" was being played and that ROBESON planned on returned to New York not later than June 1, 1945, if the subject did not get permission to go to Europe with his play.

In the Daily Worker, issue of April 17, 1945, appears a column to the effect that the Council on African Affairs, headed by PAUL ROBESON, had submitted a memorandum to the delegates of the United Nations Conference in San Francisco calling for the establishment of an International Colonial Commission in the proposed world organization. This article indicated that this proposed Colonial Commission would establish social, economic and political standards of colonial administration and would set a time for the people of each dependent territory to achieve political self-determination.

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] whose reliability is not questioned, advised that the Post Office at 221 East 34 Street, which covers the subject's address of 132 East 38 Street, New York City, had on file as of September 19, 1944, a removal card to 140 East 37 Street, New York City. This Informant further advised that he did not believe the subject lived at this address. However, he stated that sometimes mail did come to 140 East 37 Street, New York City. It was the Informant's opinion that the subject stayed at hotels when he was in New York City, but of this fact, Informant could not be certain. b7j

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NY 100-25857

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW HAVEN FIELD DIVISION

AT ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT

Will discreetly ascertain whether or not subject resides with family at Enfield, Connecticut.

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will follow and report the activities of the subject.

CONFIDENTIAL

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~~CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS~~

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~~_____~~ whose identity is known to the
Bureau.

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[REDACTED] as reflected
by Bureau letter to New York, March 8,
1944.

C

Office of Postal Censorship

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS (CONT'D)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

whose identity is known to the Bureau.

[REDACTED]

whose identity is known to the Bureau.

[REDACTED]

whose identity is known to the Bureau.

[REDACTED]

Post Office employee at 221 East 34 Street, who requested his identity be kept confidential.

b1

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

N HN

FILE NO. **100-8602** pk

REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN, CONN.	DATE WHEN MADE 9-21-45	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/25, 29/45	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE PAUL ROBESON, with alias			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject's family resides at Enfield, Connecticut, and the subject apparently divides time between New York City and his home in Enfield. Wife is an elector in Enfield but subject is not.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated 7-25-45 at New York City **b7c**

DETAILS:

[REDACTED] Enfield, Connecticut, searched the list of electors for the town of Enfield and ascertained that the subject's wife, ESLANDA was made a voter on August 24, 1944, and that she was born December 15, 1899 at Washington, D. C. Her own home address was 1221 Enfield Street. He stated that there was no record of the subject's ever having become an elector in the town of Enfield. He further stated he was acquainted with the subject and his family and stated that the subject's children had attended the high school at Enfield and that the subject apparently divides his time between New York City and his home in Enfield. **b7c b7D**

[REDACTED] advised he is acquainted with the subject and his family, and that the subject has a home at 1221 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut, and stated

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Roger F. Gleason</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	CONFIDENTIAL	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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(5) Bureau 1 Col. S.V. Constant, D of I, 2 SC 2 New York 2 New Haven COPY IN FILE	CLASS. & EXT. BY <i>SP-5 RSC/HM</i> REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW <i>11/20/92</i>	RECORDED & INDEXED 175 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

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that his children were educated in the local schools. [REDACTED] advised that the subject is seen quite frequently in and about the town of Enfield but it was always his understanding that he spent most of his time in New York City where he conducts his business affairs. [REDACTED] stated he believed the subject considered New York as his residence but maintains a country home for his wife and family in Enfield, Connecticut. b7c b7D

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF
ORIGIN

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S:AS
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Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON, wa;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: September 27, 1945

Enclosed is one photograph of subject and his wife, ESLANDA
GOODE ROBESON, for inclusion in the Communist Key Figure File of the Bureau.

Enclosure (1)

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ENCLOSURE

100-12304-33

ENCLOSURE - Bureau (1)
NY 100-25857
Photograph of subject and his wife.

100-12314-83



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

EHW:LVO

TO : MR. LADD

FROM : MR. J. C. STRICKLAND

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: 11-6-45

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Coffey ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Carson ✓
Mr. Egan ✓
Mr. Gurnea ✓
Mr. Hendon ✓
Mr. Pennington ✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Miss Beahm ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

The captioned person, a Negro singer, recently returned from Europe, having made a USO tour there. Shortly after Robeson's return to the United States the New York Office learned from [REDACTED] that Max Yergan, a close friend of Robeson, and a Negro Communist functionary, conferred with a person identified only as Sol Lasky. The conference pertained to an attempt to get a number of wealthy persons together for the purpose of raising money. This money (\$10,000 was mentioned) would then be used to broadcast radio speeches by Robeson in which he would state his "convictions" which he obtained during his USO tour. b7D

According to Yergan the convictions which have been formed by Robeson as a result of his tour to Europe are:

1. The continued existence of Nazi spirit and leadership.
2. That the colonial people in Africa and in the Far East are being subjected to a "new squeeze" by the Imperialists."

Robeson, as you know, has publicly expressed his sympathies for the Soviet Union and he is known to have provided his services to a large number of Communist front groups from time to time. While his Communist Party membership book number is not known, his actions, connections and statements definitely classify him as a Communist.

ACTION: None. The foregoing is submitted for record purposes in the file on Paul Robeson.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

DATE: November 2, 1945

FROM : Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON

Attached are two photostatic copies of a clipping taken from The Pittsburgh Courier on October 27, 1945, concerning the award of the Spingarn Medal. The Spingarn Medal is the annual award given by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to the Negro making the outstanding achievements during the year.

In accepting this medal, according to the article, Robeson stated, "Full employment in Russia is a fact, and not a myth, and discrimination is non-existent... The Soviet Union can't help it as a nation and people if it is in the main stream of change."

ACTION: It is suggested that the attached articles be placed in the main file on Robeson.

Attachments

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Robeson Lauds Russia at Spingarn Medal Banquet

peoples can accomplish in one generation," Mr. Anderson said. "Full employment in Russia is a fact, not a myth, and

Steven Harvey Silver, 41, of 10000 N. 10th Ave., said...

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The dinner was attended by several hundred guests, many of whom were

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Davis, Mrs. Josephine A. Mann, and Mrs. Roy Collins, of the company, Adam Clay, Geo. Powell, Mr. and Mrs. J. Norman, Mrs. J. W. Kinkead, James O. Schuman, Benjamin J. Davis, J. C. and Mrs. H. Schuch, W. A. and Row. E. G. Adams, Hon. and Mrs. Robert T. Foley, Mrs. Edith Adams, and Mrs. Joseph Smith and Robert J. Smith.

At the breakers table were Mrs. J. J. Burdett, Miss J. Condit, Mrs. Connelly, Miss Anna Grace Johnson, Dr. Louis F. Wright, Mrs. Marshall Field, Mrs. J. C. Brown, Mrs. W. H. White, Miss Nellie Field, Miss Emerson, Arthur Spingarn, Mrs. Walter White, Mrs. Mary Spingarn and J. W. Birch. During the evening flowers were presented to Miss Marion Anderson and Mrs. Robinson by Mrs. Spingarn and Walter White was toastmaster.

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Speech Shocks Notables

Robeson Lauds Russia at Spingarn Medal Banquet

NEW YORK—Thirtieth recipient of the Spingarn Medal, annual award for outstanding achievement, presented by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, actor-singer Paul Robeson, in his acceptance speech Thursday at the Biltmore Hotel, shocked his several hundred listeners.

By voicing frank and pronounced preferences for Soviet principles—economic, political and social—Robeson, in pointing out that the Russians have shown what backward

peoples can accomplish in one generation of endeavor, Mr. Robeson said: "Full employment in Russia is a fact and not a myth, and

(Continued on Page 4, Column 4)

Robeson also said that the Soviet Union is the only country in the world where people are free to work and live in peace and harmony and where everyone can work for the good of all and the advancement of mankind. He also said that the Soviet Union is the only country in the world where people are free to work and live in peace and harmony and where everyone can work for the good of all and the advancement of mankind. He also said that the Soviet Union is the only country in the world where people are free to work and live in peace and harmony and where everyone can work for the good of all and the advancement of mankind.

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